

Mild tempered hiving off for British Steel

By VICTOR KEEGAN, Industrial Correspondent

British Steel is to be allowed to go ahead with its full expansion programme for 1971, the Government has decided. Its long-awaited plans for a corporation, announced yesterday, also include milder "hiving off" easements than expected.

Even so, the hiving off proposals could affect more than £200 millions of the corporation's turnover of £1,400 millions. But the 1971 expansion programme, costing £258 millions still stands. There will be a more selective pricing policy, and a board members, including the chairman of Shell, are being appointed.

The method of "hiving off" leaves the corporation with a certain degree of flexibility and is considerably less harsh than had been feared. Mr John Davies, secretary for Trade and Industry, described the proposals as "good industrial sense".

Lord Melchett, chairman of the BSC, only slightly less spontaneously, said they represented a "sound, logical, industrial solution".

Under the proposals, the BSC will either sell some of its non-core assets or, in the case of its constructional engineering and chemical subsidiaries (combined turnover £75 millions) private capital will be introduced through mergers with private companies and through forming separate companies issuing shares on the Stock Exchange.

The BSC has also agreed to form a separate company on the Stock Exchange to act as a holding company for all the various companies into which private capital will be introduced, including those which would themselves have Stock Exchange quotations.

The first of the major deals, the sale of the private sector, was announced in principle yesterday by Mr Davies and concerns the unravelling of an unsatisfactory situation created by nationalisation, in which BSC owns two-thirds of Shepote Lane, a rolling mill near Sheffield, yet does not have management control.

Negotiations to resolve this situation were already going on under the Labour Government. The terms announced yesterday involve the BSC selling its stake in Shepote Lane and Firth Vickers Stainless Steels to Thomas Firth and John Brown. The BSC will then buy back some of the assets.

Another deal also being negotiated by the Labour Government is the return of the Brymbo Steel Works to GKN will also be discussed further.

Mr Davies said the corporation was prepared to open discussions with interested parties to create one or two joint bill-making companies. Bill-making accounted for 6 to 7 per cent of the BSC's £1,400 millions turnover, he said.

However, Lord Melchett said that hiving-off would apply to only a small proportion of the corporation's bill-making activities, and would not affect the huge Anchor

project being built at Scunthorpe.

Other activities into which private capital is to be introduced include the corporation's profitable wiremaking. The corporation has also agreed to sell its interests in bright bar stamping, tool and tool-steel making, a small engineering works, some industrialised housing, and certain of its brick-making activities. Lord Melchett envisages a rough timetable of two years to bring these things about.

What all this amounts to is that, apart from direct sell-offs, the corporation will hive-off most of its peripheral activities into a company quoted on the Stock Exchange in which it may or may not have a majority holding.

As a result of agreeing all this, the Steel Corporation, which is losing £100 millions a year, will be allowed to continue its £258 millions capital investment programme for the year, including big developments at Ravenscraig and Llanwern, earlier put in suspense. A decision on the longer term investment of the BSC form part of a review being conducted by Mr Davies, to be completed in the autumn. Authorisation of the BSC's capital expenditure programme for the next year will involve legislation to increase its borrowing powers.

In future, the corporation will adopt a more selective pricing policy instead of increasing all products "across the board". But it will still need the permission of the Government which will have to consult with the Iron and Steel Consumers' Council.

Mr Davies announced the appointment of two new part-time members to the BSC board with effect from July 19. These are Sir Matthew Stevenson, deputy chairman of Mersey Docks and Harbour Board, and Mr Ralph Bateman, chairman of Turner and Newall Ltd. From the beginning of next year, Sir David Barran, chairman of Shell Transport and Trading Company, will also join as a part-time member.

Parliamentary report, page 4; Leader comment, page 10

Barber 'wait and see' on reflation

By MARK ARNOLD-FORSTER

THE Chancellor of the Exchequer told the Commons yesterday that he thought the economy was broadly speaking on the course he had set for it in the Budget. But he said he would consider whether a measure of reflation was necessary after the Treasury's four monthly review of economic indicators. This would be complete in about two weeks' time.

Mr Barber also said that Britain would acquire a new sense of purpose and a faster rate of growth when she joined the Common Market. Earlier, Mr Roy Jenkins,

Deputy Leader of the Labour Party and Shadow Chancellor, had warned Mr Barber: "You cannot frighten people into Europe and I beg the Government not to do so."

More evidence that the economy is not moving as fast as many would like is shown in the figures for bank lending issued by the clearing banks today. They show an increase last month of only £23.5 millions, bringing the total to just over the level recorded at the end of February.

Anthony Harris, page 15; Norman Shrapnel, back page



Mr Daniel Ellsberg arriving at the Federal Building, Boston, yesterday to surrender to the US Attorney. With him is his wife

Unrepentant Ellsberg

From RICHARD SCOTT: Washington, June 28

Mr Daniel Ellsberg, who helped to prepare the Pentagon study on Vietnam, admitted today that he had given the "New York Times" a copy of the study. He disclosed this before surrendering to Federal authorities in Boston. Since Friday, when he was charged with unlawful possession of secret documents and a warrant was issued for his arrest, he has been hiding from the FBI.

Mr Ellsberg said outside the Boston court this morning: "I felt, as an American citizen, I could no longer cooperate in concealing this information (the Pentagon study) from the public. I did this clearly at my own jeopardy and I am prepared to answer to all consequences." He also admitted providing the Senate Foreign Relations Committee with the information contained in the Pentagon study in the autumn of 1969.

Mr Ellsberg, a former employee of the State and Defence Departments, had been named as a source of the disclosure by a reporter once with the "New York Times". He was remanded on \$21,000 bail until July 15.

Mr George Ball, the former Assistant Secretary of State, and a close friend of Mr Johnson, said he was surprised that those who claim that the Pentagon study shows how the public was deceived by President Johnson.

Mr Ball said in an interview: "There were many, many times when President Johnson would put his hand on my shoulder and say, 'I can't tell you how grateful I am to you for disagreeing with me.'"

Mr Ball, who alone emerges with enhanced reputation from documents so far made public, is evidently also loyal. But he is far too intelligent not to know his defence of the former President is beside the point. The documents speak for themselves.

However often Mr Johnson

Shot during rally

From our own Correspondent

Washington, June 28
Joe Colombo senior, whom Federal officials have described as a leader of one of the five Mafia families in the New York area, is in hospital today after being shot in the head several times during a rally in New York.

Jerome Johnson, a 25-year-old Negro from New Jersey, who was shot dead at the scene, has been tentatively named as the gunman.

Colombo is one of the leaders of the Italian-American Civil Rights League. This was formed to fight suggestions of association with the Mafia. Colombo is on bail of \$10,000 charged with running a \$2 millions a year gambling ring in Manhattan and Long Island.

Titian's sudden change of hands

By MALCOLM STUART

Lord Harewood and his family may have lost several hundred thousands of pounds on the sale of their Titian painting "Death of Actaeon" — because an American museum stopped bidding in the hope that it would later be able to buy the painting from the successful bidder, Mr Julius Weitzner, who paid 1,600,000 guineas for it.

The J. Paul Getty Museum, of Malibu, California, announced last night that its tactics had succeeded: it had bought the Titian from Mr Weitzner. At the Christie's auction on Friday, the museum stopped bidding at £11 million guineas. "We were prepared to go higher, but we elected to drop out because we hoped we might be able to deal with whoever had bought it," Mr Michael Zimmer, the New York dealer who bid for the Getty Museum, said.

There was a second reason for keeping the price down, he said. "Museums in Britain have the right to buy it at the auction price within 90 days. We did not want to force up the price too high, in case they wanted to exercise the right."

The curator of the museum, Mr Burton Fredericksen, said: "We have now bought the painting for considerably less than if we had continued bidding. Mr Weitzner's commission is less than one step in the bidding." The bidding went up in steps of 100,000 guineas.

Criticism

Mr Weitzner, an American, aged 68, who lives in Mayfair, was the dealer who bought Ducio's "Madonna and Child" for £2,700 when it was sold at auction in 1968. He later sold it to the National Gallery for £150,000. Allegations were made that the price had been kept artificially low, and the Parliamentary Commissioner, then Sir Edward Compton, later criticised the Board of Trade because legal proceedings had not been taken.

Details of the rapid resale of the Titian were given at a press conference called by Christie's. At the same time, Mr Fredericksen made a remarkable offer to the National Gallery. He said he would be prepared to lend the painting to the gallery for at least two years, in exchange for works of a comparable value which he would display at Malibu.

He offered to include in the deal the two François Boucher paintings and Van Dyck's "Study of Negro Heads" which the Getty Museum bought directly for 400,000 guineas each on Friday.

Public feeling

Which pictures does Mr Fredericksen want? "We have not decided yet," he said. "The National Gallery has enough in its basement to match the displays of many an American museum."

Was this a ploy to lessen public feeling about the eventual export of the Titian? "Not at all," he said. "In fact, we would be delighted if the money was found here to keep it permanently. If the country values the picture enough, it could stay in London for ever."

The Titian has in fact hung for many years in the National Gallery, on loan from Lord Harewood and his family trustees. It was put on sale to clear the residue of death duties the family owes — about £800,000.

Mr Fredericksen went on to say: "The more things that are kept at home (Malibu), the less people from other parts of the world get to see them. Our annual attendances are in the lower thousands."

The museum at the Californian surfing resort was established in 1954 by Paul Getty, the oil billionaire whose principal home is in Surrey. There are eight galleries, showing Greek and Roman sculpture, eighteenth-century French furniture, and European paintings.

"Our walls are not very high," Mr Fredericksen said. "We are building a new extension but at the moment we would not be able to show the Titian in the sort of high-ceilinged setting it deserves." The painting measures 70in. by 78in.

If the National Gallery accepts the Getty deal, Mr Fredericksen hopes it will be the start of a series of exchanges with leading European museums. He admitted that many curators objected to valuable works of art being

Civilian rule under army supervision

From MARTIN WOOLLACOTT: Dacca, June 28

Central and provincial civilian governments will be set up in Pakistan within four months, circumstances permitting, operating under a constitution to be drawn up by a committee of experts and under the "cover" of martial law for a period of time, President Yahya Khan said today in a broadcast to the nation.

The President castigated the Awami League leadership and India, and accused them of planning the secession of East Pakistan "over a considerable period of time." He added that foreign aid "which seeks to make inroads into our sovereignty is not acceptable to us." Pakistan would be "fully prepared to do without it."

General Yahya thus made none of the concessions — such as the release of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman on the replacement of General Tikka Khan — which Western opinion has been pressing on him, and in providing for the continuance of martial law in some form, he lays himself open to the argument that the planned "transfer of power" will be incomplete at best, and may well leave real control of the country with the armed forces.

The President said that, after investigation, a list of Awami League members of the National and Provincial Assemblies, disqualified because of "anti-State activities" would be published. The rest would retain their seats as independents and by-elections will be held to fill the vacancies.

He asked non-secessionist members of the League to come forward to "play their part in rebuilding the political structure," the most recent in a series of such appeals, but the first to come formally from the President. So far very few League members have in fact come forward.

The drafting of a Constitution would be entrusted to an expert committee, President Yahya said, because of the unhappy history of attempts to frame Constitutions by Assembly in Pakistan.

He had laid down guidelines for the committee, and these would ensure that the Constitution would be of a Federal nature, allowing maximum autonomy to the provinces without depriving the Central Government of necessary powers.

After the byelections and adoption of the new Constitution, National and Provincial Assemblies would be convened and National and Provincial Governments formed.

But these governments will "have at their disposal the cover of martial law for a period of time. In actual practice, martial law will not be operative in its present form, Turn to back page, col. 7

Banners on No. 2 court

DEMONSTRATORS interrupted play for two minutes on No. 2 court at Wimbledon, yesterday, and paraded with banners saying "No Racialist Tennis Here," during a doubles match in which the South African player, Cliff Drysdale, was playing. Drysdale said after the match: "I have every sympathy with the demonstrators' cause, but I have no sympathy whatsoever with their methods." He and his partner lost the match and Mr Dennis Brutus, president of the South African Non-Racial Olympic Committee, will appear at Wimbledon Magistrates' Court today charged with insulting behaviour.

Winnie Shaw, the last surviving Briton in the tournament, was beaten in two sets yesterday by Margaret Court, and Rod Laver was beaten by the unseeded American, Tom Gorman.

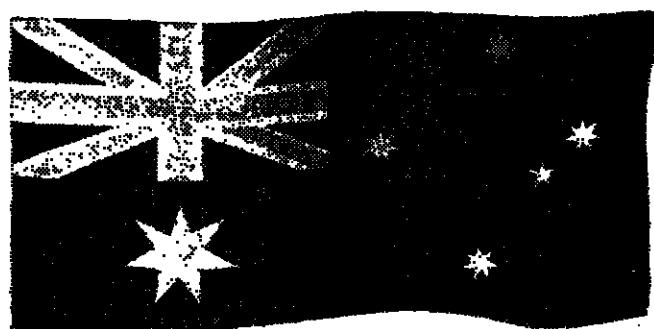
David Gray, page 19

Late claims

LEARNER drivers who are unavoidably prevented from turning up for driving tests will be able to claim £7 towards the lost fee of £2.25 and the driving school charges under a 20p insurance scheme run by the Motor Schools' Association and the Sun Alliance.

Saga for Ivan

THE BBC's award-winning and much-shown television series, "The Forsyte Saga," is to be shown in the Soviet Union from next month. It has now been sold to 46 countries.



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Tables turn on TriStar

From ADAM RAPHAEL

Washington, June 28

The British Government topped its original demand for an official United States guarantee of Lockheed's liability and agreed to accept a lesser assurance of a 50 millions Federal loan guarantee after being told by a Nixon Administration that it was an impossible condition.

This revealing inter-governmental exchange was made public by the Chairman of the British Government, Mr Daniel Haughton, who said today he would announce the British Government's decision on approach to the British Cabinet would end on whether there was a reasonable chance of getting the TriStar. He admitted, however, that he had no idea if the British Government might approve the loan guarantee before the August session.

Haughton told the House of Commons that his mate decision on approach to the British Cabinet would end on whether there was a reasonable chance of getting the TriStar. He admitted, however, that he had no idea if the British Government might approve the loan guarantee before the August session.

I just don't know what all principals would do if we not get this loan guarantee the time of the recess," he said.

I am being very honest with you. But the fact is that this programme is so inter-related, that if you start taking it out of it, the whole thing could come down. Some-thing could trigger the circumstance that would be disastrous to the whole programme. I am not sure what might happen and I hope it doesn't."

He said whether it was the British Government or the Americans who were insisting on the guarantees from Congress, Haughton made clear that the British Government had pped its original demand. The British did come a long way, he said. "They originally wanted to have a Government guarantee from our Government, but of course they were told by me and people in our Government that there was no way to give them a guarantee Lockheed would forever be able, so what has really happened is that we had to have a guarantee to get the additional money to finance the programme and the British accepted this means of assuring its own people that it is a good idea for them to keep sending \$5 millions a week on engine for us. That's how it is today."

Mr Haughton's frank answer to light on an area that had been deliberately murky by officials on both sides of the Atlantic. Though barrassing to the British Government, it could possibly p Lockheed in the House of Commons which began on July 8 several Congressmen had y were being asked to do rescue the British Government. Mr Haughton has now made clear that the banks and major parties who have to reassured.

Goodman back to Rhodesia

Lord Goodman, one of the British emissaries engaged in talks about a Rhodesian settlement, flew to Salisbury again last night. Rhodesian Front chairman resigned, page 2

Queen's visit goes quietly

By DEREK BROWN

The Queen's visit to York yesterday passed without incident. Security precautions by the police, army, and Special Branch were reinforced when a second note threatening an attempt at assassination was sent to a local newspaper office. It said:

"The Angry Brigade wish to say that the Queen will be shot in the museum gardens. This is no fantasy. The note, like the first, was sent to the 'York Evening Press.' It was delivered in the morning post, and carried a York postmark. The first note, too, mispelt the word 'angry.' Both notes were handwritten in capitals."

The police posted extra men to the museum gardens, where the Queen was. After the first note, delivered to the paper on Friday, 15 of the 450 policemen on duty were issued with revolvers and rifles, four armoured scout cars appeared at the Knivesmire racecourse, where the Queen saw a display by children. Policemen also kept a look-out along the one-mile route from the racecourse to the city.

Reports that the Household Cavalry escort would also carry firearms were denied by the army. Several hundred troops formed guards of honour at the racecourse. They carried regulation, self-loading rifles, and the

army's new light sub-machine-gun. The Queen's visit, which was part of the city's 1,900th anniversary celebrations, lasted a little more than five hours. After the heavy rain of the morning, the Queen and Prince Philip drove through the city in an open carriage escorted by 60 men of the Household Cavalry. The route was lined by tens of thousands of cheering people.

The "York Evening Press" said in a leading article that it had sent the first note to the police on Friday and had not mentioned the matter in that day's paper because it thought it was a hoax. But on Saturday morning,

the police in York saw fit to mention the letter at a press conference and described how armed officers would be on duty today. This left the paper with no alternative but to publish the message, along with the fact that the police, in their greater knowledge of these matters, were taking the threat seriously.

Minutes before Princess Anne entered Durham Cathedral, yesterday, for a "Save the Children Fund" service, two men, who said they represented the Angry Brigade, telephoned to say that a bomb had been planted in the cathedral. No notice was taken of the call because the cathedral had already been searched.

TV, radio-2

Arts... 8
Business... 15:17
Entertainment... 6
Home... 5:7
Horror... 14

Classified-14

Overseas... 24
Parliament... 4
Sports... 18:19
Women... 9
X-words... 14:19

OVERSEAS NEWS

W. Germany names conditions for troop reductions

From NORMAN CROSSLAND: Bonn, June 28

The vocabulary of East-West relations has acquired a new catchphrase—a symbolic, mutual reduction of forces. It was used first by the US Secretary of State, Mr Rogers, was quickly taken up by the West German Government, and will soon be aired throughout NATO. But it is by no means certain that to everybody the phrase has the same meaning.

In Bonn it means the first stage of MBFR—mutual balanced forces reduction. Government sources say that the symbolic step would be taken only after the first stage of MBFR had been agreed. This would be the pattern of subsequent reductions, stage by stage.

Hard-liner quits Rhodesia post

From PETER NIESEWAND: Salisbury, June 28

Mr Ralph Nilson, chairman of Mr Ian Smith's ruling Rhodesian front and an uncompromising hardliner on talks with Britain, resigned today.

After about three years in office, Mr Nilson moved out hours before the expected arrival from Britain of Sir Philip Adams for discussions on a settlement with Rhodesian officials.

Mr Nilson denied that his retirement had any connection with the talks or Mr Smith's handling of the issue: he had pressing commitments on his farm.

But sources said the timing of his action was curious. The proper moment would have come in October, when the Rhodesian Front held its annual congress, and would

have been able to elect his successor. The sources said Mr Nilson may not have liked the direction taken by Mr Smith, and feeling powerless to influence the majority in the party, may not have wished to become personally involved.

The party's executive elected Mr Desmond Frost, aged 46, a farmer, to be acting chairman. Mr Smith told the executive today that the British Government's representatives were in Salisbury talking to representatives of his regime.

"They are trying to find out whether there is sufficient common ground to warrant a meeting at higher level," he said. "I have not been involved, and neither have any of my Ministers, in these discussions."

Next summer may be too late

Rome, June 28

Italy's new divorce law has cleared its final legal hurdle with a Constitutional Court ruling that it does not violate the post-war Constitution, informed sources said today.

The ruling of the court, supreme arbiter in constitutional matters, is final, but a referendum on divorce, which is now almost certain to be held, could still invalidate the law within the next year. The court's judgment is expected to be published in the course of the next few days.

The Constitutional Court was requested to rule upon the validity of the December, 1970, divorce laws by a three-judge tribunal in Siena, which refused

to hear divorce petitions pending a final judgment.

The present ruling will mean that dozens of Roman Catholic judges across Italy will now have either to hear petitions or stand down on grounds of conscience when divorce cases come up.

Meanwhile, Italy's anti-divorce campaigners had by last week gathered well over a million signatures, petitioning that the issue be submitted to a nationwide referendum.

The referendum appears almost certain to take place next summer, with a good chance of nullifying the law and undoing five years of tough and turbulent campaigning which pushed the divorce law through Parliament. — Reuters.

Films must stand on their own feet

By our Financial Staff

The Government has decided that Britain's film industry must stand on its own feet. Mr Nicholas Ridley, Under-Secretary of State for Industry, told Parliament yesterday the Government aimed "gradually to withdraw from the financing of films." He said later that it was not Tory policy to put money into "non-strategic" industries.

This means the Government-backed National Film Finance

Corporation will have to seek alternative methods of finance. As part of its withdrawal, the Government has set a £1 million limit on the amount of money it will lend the NFCC, and each pound of taxpayer's money must be matched by £2 from the private sector. Mr Ridley did say, however, that if the NFCC project was a success then we might consider investing more money, by means of a rights issue. But he added, "If it doesn't pay, then it's the end of the corporation."

These costs are now running at about \$1.2 billion a year, and the Americans are expected to lend the dollar costs 80 per cent of this by military purchases, credit arrangements, and direct payments from the budget.

Judges give Ali the last round

From ADAM RAPHAEL

Washington, June 28

The Supreme Court today reversed the conviction of the former world heavyweight boxing champion, Muhammad Ali, who had been sentenced to five years' imprisonment and fined \$4,167 for draft evasion.

In a unanimous decision eight Justices ruled that Ali's beliefs established that he was a conscientious objector, for they were "founded on tenets of the Moslem religion as he understood them."

Ali, told of the verdict, thanked Allah. He said he planned two fights in preparation for a return bout with the champion, Joe Frazier. "After Frazier I plan to get out," he said. "Then I'll be a minister."

Sincere

The Government argued that Ali's real reasons for refusing the draft were "political and racial." But the Court noted the Government's admission that Ali was a sincere Moslem, and said his conviction was "simply wrong as a matter of law."

Ali, formerly Cassius Clay, began his dispute with the Government four years ago in Houston, when he refused to take the traditional step forward and be inducted into the army. One month later he was convicted by an all-white jury.

Throughout his lengthy legal battles Ali contended that he was a minister of the Black Muslims, and that his religion did not allow him to be inducted except for "a holy war." But earlier remarks, such as "I ain't got nothing against them Vietcong," told against him. So did the Justice Department's apparent determination to make an example of his case.

All, uneducated but shrewd, rarely gave up hope. He said recently: "If I was going to go for stealing or hitting somebody that would be bad. But when you are standing up for your beliefs, it is not bad, it is honourable."

What most angered him, he once said, was that his defence cost more than \$30,000. But his purse will be twice that when he fights his former sparring partner, Jimmy Ellis, this summer.

Ranger was thrown and gored

Mr Dixie Congdon, aged 28, who was tossed by a bull eland at the Duke of Bedford's Wild Animal Kingdom game park and later died, had moved the animal hundreds of times before but on this occasion the antelope refused to move. Mr Leslie Darnton, another keeper, said at the inquest at Bedford yesterday.

Mr Congdon waved his jacket, turned and tossed him over his head. Mr Darnton said that Mr Congdon landed on his feet, ran round the back of their Land Rover, and got in.

"We thought at first he was just wounded but then we saw he was holding on to his stomach and went white. We drove to the office and called an ambulance."

Verdict: misadventure.

Boardroom over Europe

A jet equipped as a flying boardroom left Hull yesterday for a sales tour of Europe to show how unconnected firms can jointly own an aircraft. Three Hull companies, Armstrong, Humber, and Massey, have cooperated with Hawker Siddeley Aviation for the week-long "Joint Jet into Europe" project, using the H.S. 125 business jet.



Mr Heath at 10 Downing Street yesterday with Signor Emilio Colombo, the Italian Prime Minister, who is in London for three days of official talks accompanied by his Foreign Minister

Heath and Colombo sing each other's praises

By HELLA PICK

Signor Colombo, the Italian Prime Minister and Mr Heath have had "friendly, frank, and satisfactory talks," but they were hardly dramatic and far from scenario anticipated when the dates for the Italian visit were fixed.

Then, it was thought that Signor Colombo might come riding in on a white charger to rescue Britain from a last-minute crisis in negotiations to join the Common Market.

But President Pompidou and the Paris summit ended all sign of crisis. The main issues of entry were settled in Luxembourg last week in the most pedestrian manner and Signor Colombo's visit this week has lost much of its original import.

In public, the Italian Prime Minister and Mr Heath have agreed in singing each other's praises. To the Italians, Mr Heath has demonstrated "Britain's will to take part (in

the construction of the European Community) with zeal and zest."

And Mr Heath could not have been more grateful at last night's banquet for Italy's help during the years of trying to join. Signor Colombo also had a kind word for Mr Wilson's "courageous determination" to apply for entry in 1967.

But the Italian Prime Minister would not be drawn at his press conference yesterday concerning his views on the prospect of a British parliamentary majority for entry. He merely thought that everyone should bear in mind "the ultimate goal."

Someone wanted to know whether he and Mr Heath had had a television discussion with Enoch Powell about advanced theories about Britain's loss of sovereignty if she joined the Community. All that was learned is that television gives Signor Colombo indignation.

The Italian leader was also reticent on the construction of a united Europe. One suspects that the Italian Government is not quite as enthusiastic as Mr Heath about President Pompidou's determination to prevent the emergence of supra-national institutions in Europe.

Italy does not shy from federalist notions and believes that the European parliament must be strengthened. But Signor Colombo emphasised that all is fluid and flexible, that nothing is determined, no

institutional decisions have been taken, and that everyone was still searching for the right road to political unification.

In private, the two Prime Ministers have apparently concentrated on East-West relations and the problems of the Mediterranean. There was talk about the need for careful planning before an East-West security conference could be held, with a Berlin solution as a precondition.

There would have to be equally careful preparation for East-West talks on mutual, balanced, reductions of forces.

In the Middle East, the pair loyally support the near-moribund Rogers plan. As for Malta, it was apparently too soon to draw conclusions about Mr Mintoff — at any rate as far as public consumption is concerned.

It would be improper to discuss Malta's internal affairs. As Signor Colombo said, although the admiral sent packing is an Italian, he is a NATO representative, and it is for NATO to consider his case.

Water project on commune

The South-east Asia Treaty Organisation yesterday gave Thailand \$4,000 for a water project in North-eastern Udon province. The money will provide water for 1,400 peasant families on an agricultural commune.

Cruel and unusual?

From ADAM RAPHAEL: Washington, June 28

The United States Supreme Court today agreed to rule on the constitutionality of the death penalty in the course of its next term, which begins in October. This important action means that the court will decide whether the death penalty is "a cruel and unusual punishment."

In violation of the Constitution's Eighth Amendment, the amendment is the last hope for many of the 648 men and women now in death row cells. For the past four years there have been no executions for further proceedings.

In further action today, the court reversed the death sentences of 35 persons, among them Michael Speck, who was convicted of murdering eight nurses in Chicago five years ago. The court in its decision cited a 1968 ruling that individuals opposed to the death penalty could not be excluded automatically from juries in capital cases. The 35 cases will be sent back to lower courts for further proceedings.

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Clean-up raid on Costa del Sol

From our Correspondent

Madrid, June 28

Police who rounded up 11 young foreigners, including three British nationals at a weekend in Torremolinos, said to be acting on orders from the civil governor of Malaga province to wipe out vice on Spanish Mediterranean coast.

They were told to arrest suspected drug addicts, pushers, homosexuals, prostitutes, and those displaying sexual permissiveness.

The raid concentrated on Spanish-owned discotheques, several night clubs were investigated. The youths were herded into black maras, spent up to 24 hours in Malaga police headquarters, being released. They included Americans, Scandinavians, Frenchmen, Germans, Dutchmen. Many of them were innocent of any misdemeanour.

Released

All those detained have been released and it is believed that no charges will be preferred. Officials in Madrid were surprised by the outcry caused by the roundup. It was suggested that the "cleanup" was designed only to make Costa del Sol more agreeable to foreign visitors and tourists.

The authorities do not come hippies, but they may realise that such ruthless action is not only resented by frightened tourists.

Some observers believe the raid presages a new campaign in Spain and other Mediterranean resorts against the morals of the Roman Catholic Church could be deported, but such a possibility seems unlikely. Tourists remain vital to the Spanish economy and in a country where money and morals are at odds, the authorities are always to be found.

In Athens, the Church of Greece has asked monks to pray for protection from "tourist invasion." One's gested prayer seeks to "protect our brothers who are under threat of the modernistic and these contemporary West invaders."

Treblinka commandant found dead

Dusseldorf, June 28

The former commandant of the Treblinka extermination camp, Franz Paul Stangl, today in the prison here where he is serving a life sentence for the murder of at least 400,000 Jews. He was 63.

Authorities said Stangl apparently died of his heart attack. The sentence passed on him in December, 1970, was not yet ratified as appeal was pending.

Stangl hid in Brazil until arrest and extradition in 1967. The indictment accused him of having directed the systematic murder of Jews from Poland, Germany, and other European countries at Treblinka between 1942 and 1943 under "Aktion Reinhard," a Nazi extermination programme. Stangl's wife about Brazil were betrayed by his son-in-law.

Farm mechanisation fight famine

Eight British farm mechanisation teams will leave for East Pakistan today to operate and train officials to use 38 tractors sent there by Christian Aid, Oxfam, and UN World Food Programme. They hope to produce about 2,000 tons of rice their first month.

TELEVISION

ITV strides on in to "Man Alive" territory, with a Thames team's probe on that ageing faithful, life amidst hygienic redevelopment ("Where the houses used to be," ITV, 10.30). Earlier, Auntie succumbs to the impulse to commemorate her maker, with four-year-old Muggersidge films rebashed ("Looking back with Lord Reith," BBC-1, 9.20). Elsewhere, a new series starts with a dramatized look at Aubrey Beardsley and those shocking young men ("Summer Season," BBC-2, 8.0).

BBC-1
10 p.m. Maa's a Mor.
10.30 Watch with Mother.
1.45 News.
1.53 Wimbledon Tennis.
4.45 Clangers.
4.55 Animal Magic.
5.20 The Flashing Blade.
5.44 Hector's House.
5.50 News.
6.0 Nationwide.
6.15 Wimbledon Tennis.
7.40 Tom and Jerry.
7.50 Film: "The Bay of Saint Michel," with Keenan Wynn, Mal Zetterling.
9.0 News.
9.0 Looking Back with Lord Reith.
10.20 My World... and Welcome to it: world of James Thurber.
10.45 Points of view: criticism and comment.

10.50 34 Hours: Ludovic Kennedy.
11.25 Sermon on the Mount.
11.50 Weather.
11.50 (As BBC-1 except).
5.20-5.44 p.m. Teleview. 6.0-6.15 Wales Today. 6.15-6.35 Heddiw. 10.30-10.50 Miss Wales 1971. 11.25 Lions on Tour. 12.55 a.m. Weather.

English Regions. 6.0-6.15 p.m. Look North: Midlands Today. Look East: Points West. South Today. Spotlight South West. 11.52 Regional News.

BBC-2

11.0 a.m. Day School: Dressing-up Day.
4.30 p.m. Wimbledon Tennis.
7.30 News.
8.0 Summer Season—A Bruised Michel.
8.0 Summer Season—A Bruised Michel.
8.0 Summer Season—A Bruised Michel.
8.0 Summer Season—A Bruised Michel.

Freddie Jones and Wolfe Morris.
9.0 Film: "10 North Frederick"—Gary Cooper.
10.40 Match of the Day—Wimbledon Tennis.
11.25 News.
11.30 Late Night Line-up.

ITV

LONDON (Thames)

1.45 p.m. A New School for Eastergate.
2.10 Bulong and Bola.
2.25 Motor Sport by the Sea.
2.45 Film: "Gramma Brenn."
3.10 This Week.
3.40 Once Upon a Time.
3.55 Tea Break.
4.25 Peyton Place.
4.55 Little Big Time.
5.20 Magpie.
5.50 News.
6.0 Today.
6.35 Crossroads.
7.0 Father, Dear Father.
7.30 Film: "The Rounders," with Glenn Ford, Henry Fonda.
9.0 Crime of Passion.
10.0 News.
10.30 Where the Houses Used to Be.
11.30 Living Architects.
12 midnight Survival in the City.

ANGLIA—4.5 p.m. News. 4.10 Yoga. 4.40 Pauline. 4.55 Little Big Time. 5.15 News. 5.30 Crossroads. 7.0 Film: "The Cool Mikardo." 8.30 Father, Dear Father.

SOUTHERN—3.5 p.m. History of Motor Racing. 4.25 Tomorrow's Horoscope. 4.30 Women Today. 4.40 Houseparty. 4.55 Sinbad the Sailor. 4.55 Crossroads. 5.15 Little Big Time. 5.30 News. 5.50 Today. 6.0 Day by Day. 6.45 Father, Dear Father. 7.15 Film: "Jumping Jacks." 8.0 Crime of Passion. 8.15 News. 8.30 Where the Houses Used to Be. 11.30 News. 11.50 Weather: "It's All Yours."

WEST AND WALES (RTV)—3.15 p.m. Garden indoors. 3.40 Living Writers. 4.0 Tomorrow's

Dear Father. 9.0 Crime of Passion. 10.0 News. 10.30 Where the Houses Used to Be. 11.30 Play Better Tennis. 12 midnight Reflection.

CHANNEL—3.10 p.m. Freud on Food. 3.25 Ballet for All. 3.40 News. 3.50 Wales Today. 4.0 Sean the Leprechaun. 4.10 Puffin. 4.20 Moment of Truth. 4.30 News. 4.40 Crossroads. 4.55 Magpie. 5.30 News. 6.0 News and Weather. 6.10 Police File. 6.15 Channel Lookaround. 6.25 Crossroads. 7.0 Film: "A Ticklish Affair." 8.30 Father, Dear Father. 9.0 Crime of Passion. 10.0 News. 10.30 Where the Houses Used to Be. 11.30 Actualities and Projections.

MIDLANDS—3.35 p.m. Tomorrow's Horoscope. 3.40 Women Today. 4.10 Houseparty. 4.25 Sinbad the Sailor. 4.30 Crossroads. 4.55 Little Big Time. 5.15 News. 5.30 Today. 6.0 Day by Day. 6.45 Father, Dear Father. 7.15 Film: "Jumping Jacks." 8.0 Crime of Passion. 8.15 News. 8.30 Where the Houses Used to Be. 11.30 News. 11.50 Weather: "It's All Yours."

WEST AND WALES (RTV)—3.15 p.m. Garden indoors. 3.40 Living Writers. 4.0 Tomorrow's

Horoscope. 4.14 Moment of Truth. 4.40 Orgrim. 4.55 Little Big Time. 5.15 Magpie. 5.30 News. 6.0 Report Desk. 6.15 Report Wales. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.0 Film: "The Fatal Mistake." 8.0 Mr and Mrs 8.30 Father, Dear Father. 9.0 News. 9.10 News. 10.30 Where the Houses Used to Be. 11.30 Aquarius. 12.30 News. 1.0 Westward. 1.10 News. 1.20 Westward. 1.30 News. 1.40 News. 1.50 News. 2.0 News. 2.10 News. 2.20 News. 2.30 News. 2.40 News. 2.50 News. 3.0 News. 3.10 News. 3.20 News. 3.30 News. 3.40 News. 3.50 News. 4.0 News. 4.10 News. 4.20 News. 4.30 News. 4.40 News. 4.50 News. 5.0 News. 5.10 News. 5.20 News. 5.30 News. 5.40 News. 5.50 News. 6.0 News. 6.10 News. 6.20 News. 6.30 News. 6.40 News. 6.50 News. 7.0 News. 7.10 News. 7.20 News. 7.30 News. 7.40 News. 7.50 News. 8.0 News. 8.10 News. 8.20 News. 8.30 News. 8.40 News. 8.50 News. 9.0 News. 9.10 News. 9.20 News. 9.30 News. 9.40 News. 9.50 News. 10.0 News. 10.10 News. 10.20 News. 10.30 News. 10.40 News. 10.50 News. 11.0 News. 11.10 News. 11.20 News. 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Clean raid Costa del Sol Pakistan army trigger-happy -British MP

From MARTIN WOOLLACOTT: Dacca, June 28

Local refugees returning in India to East Pakistan until the Pakistani Army stops acting in a trigger-happy and arbitrary manner. Mr Toby Jessel, a member of the British parliamentary delegation here said today.

Jessel told British reporters: "From what I've heard from reliable sources, I could not tell you on my heart and soul that it is not safe for Hindus to be attacked by the army or for anyone who was connected with the army league. But I doubt whether any Bengali is really because the army is trigger-happy and arbitrary."

Jessel said he doubted the Army High Command was fully aware of the fact of the lower echelons. He said that British policy should be concerned, firstly, with humanitarian aid to avert the danger of famine in the province, and, secondly, with trying to create conditions for the return of refugees.

The best way to do this would be for the Pakistani and Indian Governments to accept the services of a large UN contingent operating on both sides of the border.

Jessel's remarks, made in advance of the delegation's visit to India and of the confidential joint report of the four members of the delegation to the British Government, are almost bound to provoke a strong reaction from the Pakistani Government.

The other members of the group, Mr James Ramsden, Mr Reginald Prentice, and the delegation's leader, Mr Arthur Bottomley, have made only the most cautious comments on the situation. Their views, however, are thought to be similar to those of Mr Jessel, although considerably more restrained.

Meanwhile, there are abundant reports of continued activity by both the Pakistani Army and the Mukti Bahini. An electric pylon was blown up by the Mukti Bahini at the weekend in Comilla District, blocking the road from Brahmanbari to Comilla.

Russian's visit to Israel unofficial

From WALTER SCHWARZ
Jerusalem, June 28

It was confirmed here today that Victor Louis, the Russian journalist who has undertaken delicate, quasi-official missions for Moscow, spent a week in Tel-Aviv earlier this month. This deepens the mystery surrounding the incipient Soviet-Israeli contacts which have taken place in recent weeks — and seem to grow more substantial the more they are denied.

At Tel-Aviv's Samuel Hotel I was told this morning that Louis had stayed there between June 13 and 17. The receptionist said, with an unconvincing smile, that Louis's registration card was "missing."

It is reliably reported in Tel-Aviv that Louis, who arrived from Helsinki via Nicosia, left on a direct flight for Bucharest. When he left he was accompanied by 10 hours because of his "missing" registration card was "missing."

Mr Eban, the Israeli Foreign Minister, today denied the presence of any Soviet emissaries — "official or unofficial" — but other reports have said that Louis talked to Mrs Meir's political adviser, Simcha Dinitz.

If there have been secret soundings of this kind, it is not inconceivable that Mr Eban was kept in the dark. He travelled to Argentina in 1955 in an El Al plane without knowing that the same plane was to bring back Adolf Eichmann.

Louis was instrumental in the foreign sales of the Sveviana Stalin and Khrushchev memoirs. As Moscow correspondent of the "London Evening News" he got advance news of Khrushchev's fall, and of the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia.

In Moscow Mr Louis said that his visit to Israel had been "absolutely personal." He had been for a medical check-up and had seen a "number of friends." Asked if any of them were close to the Israeli Government, he said he did not wish to "embarrass" them.

Soviet Jew claims offer of deal

By our own Reporter

One of the Jewish defendants on trial in Russia alleged in court that he had been offered a deal by the prosecution to persuade him to plead guilty.

This was said yesterday by Jewish sources in Kishinev, where the trial is taking place.

According to the informants, who relayed their reports to London by telephone, Hillel Shur said that he did not recognise the jurisdiction of the court and then said:

"The head of the investigation department, Polyakov, offered me a judicial bribe in the presence of the prosecutor, Alexander Poluektov. He said that if I would plead guilty to all the charges, I would be released on probation. If I refused I would be sentenced to five or six years' imprisonment."

"I refuse to have my fate decided by people who fundamentally violate Soviet laws themselves. I refuse to take part in this trial."

The sources in Kishinev denied official reports that the accused had pleaded guilty to all the charges listed. They said that all that was admitted by the defendants was that they had taken part in Jewish activities which were not anti-Soviet.

One of the nine, Abraham Trachtenberg, said in court that he had become involved with the others for cultural and educational reasons. He had been surprised at first that the activities were conducted clandestinely, but he had been told that the Ministry of Culture had rejected their request to carry on Hebrew studies.

Throughout the trial, unofficial reports have been telephoned through to London. No Western reporters have been admitted to the court, and there are reports to have been stringent security measures to keep people away from the court building.

Relatives of the accused have had to get special permission from the security police before being allowed in.



Father Cosmos Desmond

House arrest for priest

From STANLEY UYS: Cape Town, June 28

Police served banning and house arrest orders today on Father Cosmos Desmond, the Roman Catholic priest who wrote "The Discarded People," an expose of conditions under which "resettled" Africans live in South Africa.

The orders confine Father Desmond to his house from 6 p.m. to 7 a.m. on weekdays and all Saturday and Sunday, order him to report to the police every Monday, and prohibit him from receiving visitors except a doctor. They also restrict him to the Johannesburg district, and prohibit him from entering any African, Coloured, or Asian area, or from attending any gathering. The orders will run until May, 1976.

Father Desmond, who is prevented by the orders from going to church on Sundays, is the first victim of the retaliatory action which Mr Vorster's Government has been threatening against persons working among non-whites.

Less than a fortnight ago, Mr Vorster gave a warning that where were people, some in the Church, some in universities, and some in political life, "who are making it their business to cause another Sharpeville."

Action against the National Union of South African Students is also expected. The president of the union, Mr Neville Curtis, and the deputy president, Mr Paul Pretorius, said it would carry on Father Desmond's work.

The union said in a statement: "Father Desmond has exposed and criticised the inhuman treatment of black people resettled by the Government. This crude attempt to silence and restrict him will not silence the truth."

Mrs Helen Summan, the Progressive Party's only member of Parliament, said the action "makes me just sick." Father Desmond was a dedicated priest who had done great service in exposing malnutrition and poverty. As a result of his exposure, improvements have been introduced by Government departments.

"I consider it utterly vindictive that, instead of being grateful for the selfless work he has done, he should be punished by the Government and subjected to the ghastly restrictions of house arrest."

Mirage deal the great leap forward

From our Correspondent
Cape Town, June 28

The announcement that Mr Vorster's Government has reached agreement with Marcel Dassault of France to build two of the company's supersonic aircraft — the Mirage III and Mirage F1 — under licence in South Africa, has been given splash treatment in the press here today.

The pro-Government daily, the "Burger," hailed it as "an important milestone in the developing South African aircraft industry" and "a step that will be of the greatest strategic and industrial importance to South Africa." South Africa already has the Mirage III, a Mach 2 all-weather, delta-wing aircraft, developed in various versions. These aircraft were bought from France wholly assembled.

An effect of the new agreement is that South Africa will limit itself to fewer aircraft in future. It will concentrate now on continued production of its own Impala jet, and on the manufacture and assembly of the Mirage F1, also a Mach 2 aircraft, but a single-seater designed for high altitude interception, which can operate from rough runways and has a range of 2,000 miles. It made its first public flight last June.

The "Burger" says that South Africa probably will introduce greater standardisation in its aircraft industry, the Atlas Aircraft Corporation in the Transvaal. French technicians will be brought to South Africa and South Africa will send its technicians to France for specialised training.

The franchise is for the total manufacture of the Mirage aircraft, including engines and electronic equipment, such as radar and radio. It is left to South Africa to decide for itself how much local content will go into each aircraft.

A US destroyer 'beats' Mintoff's visiting ban

From JOHN CUNNINGHAM: Valletta, June 28

In spite of Mr Mintoff's request that no vessels of the 6th Fleet should visit Malta until present arrangements have been revised, the US destroyer McCord is now placidly at anchor off Gozo.

The Maltese Government's request, made at the weekend, came too late to change plans for the arrival of the destroyer which is here for three days. So far, there has been no public indication from Mr Mintoff about the sort of revision he requires before he will allow the American fleet to resume calls.

The visit of 6th Fleet warships due next month has been postponed indefinitely. So, too, has that by ships of the Libyan fleet which had been expected today. Right now Libya is one of the few countries whose ships are being greeted warmly here but, again, no reasons have been given for the postponement.

An advance party of the Royal Marine commando, which will be taking over in July from the Devon and Dorset Regiment, is now in Malta. Although Mr Mintoff is believed not to like the commando regiment, he has done nothing to prevent its coming.

Two Soviet warships, a Kresta class cruiser and a missile destroyer are lying off the Italian island of Lampedusa, about 100 miles west of Malta, according to a report from Naples. The vessels gave no indication of moving today, and it was not known what they were doing there.

The Soviet Ambassador in London, Mr Smirnovsky, who is also accredited to Malta, is expected to visit the island next month. He normally goes to the island in the summer and has not been there this year.

There is a persistent report that the Russians would like a permanent Embassy in the island.

Students' leader shot dead

Saigon, June 28

A young man summoned Le Khac Sinh Nhut, aged 23, a moderate students' leader, from a classroom today and shot him dead in a crowded porch at Saigon University's law school.

Three students were wounded in the incident, which may have concerned a power struggle in which Mr Nhut, and other moderates were trying to gain control of the Saigon students' movement.

The gunman slipped through the crowd to leap on to the pillar of a waiting motor-cycle and escaped through traffic under a hail of pistol shots from two plainclothes policemen on duty outside the faculty.

Students said that police found a note threatening death to three other moderate and pro-Government student leaders.

Mr Nhut, elected chairman of the law school's union three months ago, was No 2 man in a group trying to take over the students' movement from a radical group opposed to the Saigon Government.

Mrs Gandhi tries to calm hawks

FromINDER MALHOTRA: Bombay, June 28

In a private meeting with opposition leaders today Mrs Gandhi is reported to have "loosed" them again by "loosing" them with Pakistan. She added, benefited Pakistan. It diverted attention from the real issues and secured Islamabad to secure aid from its friends.

Indian Prime Minister also quoted as having said her Government was doing it could to help the cause of the Bangla Desh but "will not be in a taking precipitate action because of domestic pressure."

Gandhi argued that the for Bangla Desh was the of the Bangla Desh people. premature recognition by a would be unhelpful, she reported to have told her.

At the Prime Minister's plea restraint does not seem to been entirely effective. Right-wing Jan Sangh Mr, Mr Vajpayee, launched a strong attack on the Government's complacent attitude and accused Mrs Gandhi of peddling support for the Bangla Desh under American sure.

also criticised the Foreign Minister, Mr Swaran Singh, for being "completely bungled" in the Bangla Desh issue and for "gauge American reaction during a personal visit to Kingston."

a surprising show of nation.

Yorker' from a State Premier

Perth, June 28

Premier of Western Australia, Mr John Tonkin, said he was seeking ways of entering the South African cricket team from playing the side. The match, the first he South African tour, is to start on October 22.

Mr Tonkin, who was speaking to South African cricket Union tourists had left Adelaide, said: "I won't operate in any way to assist in playing the match," whether he could prevent the team from playing on ground of the Western

roats admit killing envoy

Stockholm, June 28

Two Croat nationalists, Jelko Bratkovic (22), and Baresic (20), today admitted killing the Yugoslav ambassador in Stockholm, and his secretary at the embassy on April 7.

They were charged here with der, attempted murder, and detention. They face life imprisonment if convicted of der.

Three other Croatians were charged with assisting in planning the attack. Ante Stojanovic, and Stanislav Milicenic, pleaded guilty. But Vinko Lemo (28) said he had

tried to dissuade the others from attacking the embassy.

The five have been described as members of Ustasha, a right-wing organisation fighting for an independent Croatia. When Bratkovic and Baresic came into the court, which was heavily guarded, they raised their right fists in salute, and shouted "God and Croatia."

The prosecutor, Mr Carl Axel Robert, avoided political implications. He said: "It is not up to us to give judgment on political ideologies here."

Mr Robert said the ambassador, Mr Vladimir Rolovic, was shot in the head when

Bratkovic and Baresic opened fire in the embassy. They barricaded themselves in the office of the ambassador, who was bound and gagged.

The ambassador's secretary, Miss Mira Stempflar, was also hit by gunfire. Bratkovic and Baresic surrendered after half an hour. The ambassador died in hospital but Miss Stempflar recovered.

The court watched a six-minute colour film which reconstructed the attack. Bratkovic and Baresic played their own parts, and a police officer took the role of the ambassador. — UPI.

It's easier with a cheque book.

A lot of people still take enormous sums with them on a big shopping spree and never stop to think how unnecessary it is.

In fact, it's pretty risky. You could be leaned on by a bunch of skinheads or lose the lot on a 27 bus.

That's why there comes a time when a bank account is indispensable for most people. So that when there are fairly big things to pay for, there's no counting of notes and silver, new pennies and trading stamps. With a cheque book it's easy to keep a running total of what you've spent. In addition, we send you a statement as often as you wish, which gives you a detailed account of what you've paid out and what you've paid in.

We're here to be used. To help sort out problems, and keep your personal paperwork down to a minimum. You can choose any one of 3,600 branches and open an account with a few pounds.

Then when you go off to buy the car of your dreams, take your cheque book along. And leave the suitcase at home.



National Westminster Bank
Simply there to help

HOME NEWS

DPP to ask why girl (12) went on pill

BY OUR OWN REPORTER

The Attorney-General, Sir Peter Rawlinson, yesterday announced an inquiry by the Director of Public Prosecutions into the "precise circumstances" in which 12-year-old Birmingham girl was prescribed a nine-month course of contraceptive pills by the clinic which ordered her.

Sir Peter was careful to tell the Commons that he is not saying that any offence had been committed. He said it was an offence "to parent or guardian to cause or encourage" a girl to have unlawful sexual intercourse.

He added that a doctor could be charged with a common offence of incitement if the circumstances amounted to use of incitement to a girl to abet a person to have unlawful sexual intercourse with her.

Sir Peter was answering Mr. J. Abse, Labour MP for Pontypridd, who asked him to launch a prosecution. He emphasised that no details except those in his reports had so far been sent to him.

"I don't consider that prescription of the contraceptive pill to a girl under the age of 16, or the consent of her parents to the prescription, of itself necessarily constitutes any criminal offence," Sir Peter said.

Mr. Abse spoke of "very considerable public concern" about the possibility that a 12-year-old girl could legally be prescribed the pill. He wanted Sir Peter to broaden the "absurdly restricted" terms of reference of the review committee on abortion to take into account the issue of consent.

Sir Peter said: "I will take these matters into account but would like to hear what information is supplied to the committee." Mr. Marcus Lipton, Labour MP for Brixton, asked him to act the "utterly vindictive"

idea that a criminal prosecution would serve any purpose in this unfortunate case.

Sir Peter replied: "My duty is to consider whether there is any evidence of any criminal offence." Two such cases had been referred to the DPP since last June. One related to a 12-year-old girl and sentence of two years' imprisonment was imposed. The other case was pending.

Pointing out that very few such cases had been lodged, Mr. John Biggs-Davison, Conservative MP for Chigwell, asked whether Sir Peter was satisfied with the state of the law.

Sir Peter told him that Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary for Social Services, and Mr. Maudling, the Home Secretary, would consider these matters with regard to the question of changes in the law.

The doctor who claimed that a Catholic priest made a girl who had an abortion pregnant, said yesterday that he had never seen the priest but was "perfectly sure" that he existed.

"Some Catholic girls do have fantasies about priests but they are usually easy to distinguish from reality," said Dr. Philip Cauley, Medical Director of the Calthorpe clinic at Birmingham. During the weekend he told members of the Catholic Renewal Movement in Birmingham that the girl, several years younger than the priest, was given a private abortion.

Drugs always a lure

By our Correspondent

Lord Foot told 200 school-children and students at a conference at Exeter University yesterday that "even the death penalty would not stop people abusing drugs."

He told his audience, which also included policemen, social workers, clergymen, probation officers, and doctors, that the law was not the way to deal with the drug problem. "In many ways the present laws do more to exacerbate the problems than to cure them. Many magistrates see these still penalties prescribed in the 1968 Act, and seem to believe that drug problems are synonymous with sexual and social deviations. Our experience so far has shown that the problem is still escalating and that the swingeing penalties have done nothing to abate the problem."

"The enormous profits made from drug traffic make the penalties meaningless. With some drugs changing hands 30 times, and with 100 per cent profit on each deal, even the death penalty would not stop people abusing drugs."

Lord Foot told the conference, organised by the Association for the Rehabilitation of Addicts, that what was needed was a fresh look at the legislation, and particularly the position of cannabis in the different categories laid out in the act.

He pointed out that there were dangers in the search powers given to the police. "There could be a minority of officers who make an unsuccessful search, and then decide to plant drugs to obtain convictions. Clearly this aspect of the legislation must give rise to worries about erosion of civil liberties."

Dr. George Birdwood, a London GP and author of "The Willing Victim," said: "The law on drugs has polarised society into two groups. On the one hand there is the heavy-handed authority of the police and magistrates, and on the other there is long-haired youth."

"The answer to the drug problem lies in education. And this is best dealt with by parents and teachers. But the main difficulty is that the cause of drug addiction is largely the social pressure exerted within groups of youngsters especially in cities where deprivation is most marked. I think drugs do act as a substitute for suitable activities and stable home and social backgrounds."

Only three US airmen serving in Britain have surrendered themselves for medical treatment under the amnesty for drug users, announced last March.

Painted house a 'danger'

SEASCAPES and a mountain scene painted on the outside of a house in Cheltenham are bothering the local council and the householder's neighbours.

Councillor Guy Herbert, chairman of the town planning committee, said last night: "Mr. Gilroy (the householder) did not need planning permission to do the work, but we are very concerned about it. If we had all types of pictures on houses in all parts of Cheltenham, then obviously the situation would be completely out of control. The matter is under consideration."

Mr. John Jones, who lives opposite Mr. Gilroy in All Saints Road, said: "The paintings have devalued my house and have turned the road into a circus with people stopping to look. They are a traffic hazard as well. Drivers are more interested in the pictures than the road."

Another neighbour said that Mr. Gilroy's pictures had destroyed the Regency image of the road.

But Mr. Gilroy, an inspector at a local factory, said: "I cannot think why there should be such a fuss about a few pictures on a wall. As far as I am concerned they are there to stay."



A coot with a floating asset... a nest in a lifebelt on Highgate Pond, London

Expulsion method 'full of holes'

The procedure under which a student teacher, Gillian Leslie Ward, aged 19, was expelled from college seemed to be "full of holes," Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, commented in the Appeal Court yesterday.

She was found with a man in her room at 4 o'clock one morning. Lord Denning was referring to the system by which the governors of the Margaret McMillan College of Education, Bradford, set up a disciplinary committee to investigate, and then approved the committee's recommendation to expel.

Mr. B. A. Hytner, QC, for the governors and Bradford Corporation, the education authority, replied: "There is nothing inherently objectionable in the rules. There is something inherently dangerous in them, but providing the governing body behaves sensibly in all cases they will never breach the rules of natural justice."

The Court was continuing its hearing—begun on Friday—into Miss Ward's plea that the governors should be ordered to reinstate her. She wants the order until the hearing of a High Court action she is bringing against the governors and the corporation, claiming that the expulsion decision was reached contrary to the rules of natural justice.

Miss Ward was one of five women students found with men in their rooms one morning in March. She admitted that her boyfriend, Ian Fraser, was a student at the college, but he had been living with her in the room since Christmas. She was the only student to be expelled. The others were reprimanded.

Mr. Hytner declared: "It would be quite wrong to pillory the governing body or the disciplinary committee as Victorian Fuddy-duddies, or the students as immoral or amoral. Everyone was leaning over backwards to be fair to the students and their modern approach towards living together."

The issue was solely a question of breach of the college rules. Mr. Hytner also said: "This girl was not being charged with talking to the press but quite clearly it might have been easier to have dealt with her more leniently if the press had not got on to it."

But he added that Miss Ward, coming before a fair tribunal, "could really only expect expulsion as a result of her conduct. One can only feel sorry for her that her career is blighted. She would probably find it difficult to get into another college. But what else could be done?"

Fire team set up

A special team of detectives was formed yesterday to find a fire raiser who has started at least four fires at Redruth, Cornwall, recently.

Dealer must forfeit stamps

Three High Court judges today ordered the forfeiture of 40 Rhodesian postage stamps seized by the Customs from a London stamp dealer's shop. Lord Widgery, the Lord Chief Justice, said the stamps, which had a face value of £2.27, were banned by the laws on sanctions against Rhodesia.

Sitting with Mr. Justice Lyell and Mr. Justice Cooke in the Queen's Bench Divisional Court, Lord Widgery allowed a Customs appeal against the refusal of the chief London magistrate, Sir Frank Milton, to make a forfeiture order. At a hearing at Bow Street last November Sir Frank said it was a ridiculous case to bring before the court. He awarded £50 costs to the stamp dealer, Mr. John Lister, aged 44, of Vicarage Walk, Bray, Maidenhead.

Sanctions

Lord Widgery said that in 1964 Mr. Lister, who had his business in Bury Street, St. James's, wrote to the postal administrations of all Commonwealth countries seeking examples of postage stamps to photograph for his catalogue. After the sanctions laws were introduced in 1966 the Rhodesian postal authorities continued sending stamps although Mr. Lister did not solicit them.

The chief magistrate had held that although the importation was not the importer, but Lord Widgery said the identity of the importer was irrelevant. The only question in the case was whether the goods were liable to forfeiture because of the prohibition. Mr. Lister was not present or represented at today's hearing.

Mother fails in fight for girl

A plea by a mother in the High Court yesterday to get her daughter back from a home failed.

The woman, with a daughter suffering from diabetes, did not believe that the normal medical treatment would cure her, but even the condition of her daughter could be controlled by insulin.

So she reduced the daily dose of insulin. After the girl had twice to go into hospital Somerset County Council took proceedings against the mother, saying the child was in need of care and protection. Yeovil juvenile magistrates agreed and the girl to a home.

I have been made a scapegoat and my child taken away from me when the real error was with my doctor," she claimed in the Queen's Bench Divisional Court. She said she had done what any

mother would do in the circumstances.

But the Lord Chief Justice (Lord Widgery), who sat with Mr. Justice Lyell and Mr. Justice Cooke, told her that the court had no power to go into the facts decided by magistrates. It could interfere only if the magistrates erred in law in arriving at their decision.

"You are fighting a hopeless battle," he told her. "I advise you to consult a solicitor."

"This mother has her own views about treating diabetic children with insulin," Lord Widgery said. "At an early stage she indicated she did not agree with the form of treatment prescribed, conscientiously believing her little girl's condition could, and should be, controlled by diet alone."

"We must accept the facts found by the magistrates," the Lord Chief Justice said. "There is no ground for saying they were wrong in law in reaching their decision."

Stirling Moss loses driving appeal

Stirling Moss, the former world motor racing champion, yesterday lost his appeal against a month driving ban. Moss flew from America for the appeal at Oxfordshire quarter sessions.

He was banned in April by magistrates at Thame for failing to comply with a traffic sign driving without reasonable consideration. Moss, of Shepperton, was also fined £35 and ordered to pay costs.

said yesterday that Moss drove 40,000 miles a year testing cars for magazines, and his livelihood depended totally on driving. Judge J. I. Leonard told Moss that he saw no reason to vary the sentence, "but it is no way reflects on your competence as a driver."

Moss, who was ordered to pay costs not exceeding £40, said after the hearing: "I think it is very unfair. I will have to obtain a foreign licence, probably in America, where I have been working a lot lately."

Gauge faulted in air miss

By our Correspondent

Airlines have been warned to follow flight deck procedure in an air miss over the English Channel. A BOAC VC10 and an Alouette 707 caused by a fly alarm. Two passengers and three stewardesses were injured in the incident.

The Boeing was about 6,400 ft above the flight level to which it had been cleared because of an error by a captain during a line check, says a report from the chief inspector of accidents at the Department of Trade and Industry.

"It now appears from evidence supplied by other pilots that similar errors in instrument setting have been made on other occasions but are not naturally reluctant to report them and consequently it is likely that they have occurred on many more occasions than is generally appreciated."

adds: "In the light of information obtained in the course of the investigation it is relevant to question whether the existing routings, the 4,000 ft transition altitude and vertical separation standards represent the best possible compromise under present-day conditions."

"The grave possibilities of this sort of human error are obvious. As it now appears that the error may have been made more frequently than was at first appreciated and as the resultant risk will increase with a rise in traffic density, the problem should be given urgent consideration."

The report gives an extract from communications between the pilots and air traffic control. Part of the BOAC pilot's conversation when the incident occurred in November goes:

"Speedbird 315. We've just had a near miss with I think it was a KLM aircraft at 6,000 on just turning on to zero five zero."

London control: "Roger, confirm you were level at seven zero." BOAC pilot: "That's affirmative and it was El Al, I believe."

A minute later the ATC director said to the BOAC skipper: "I just checked with the outbound radar controller. His aircraft was a thousand feet below you."

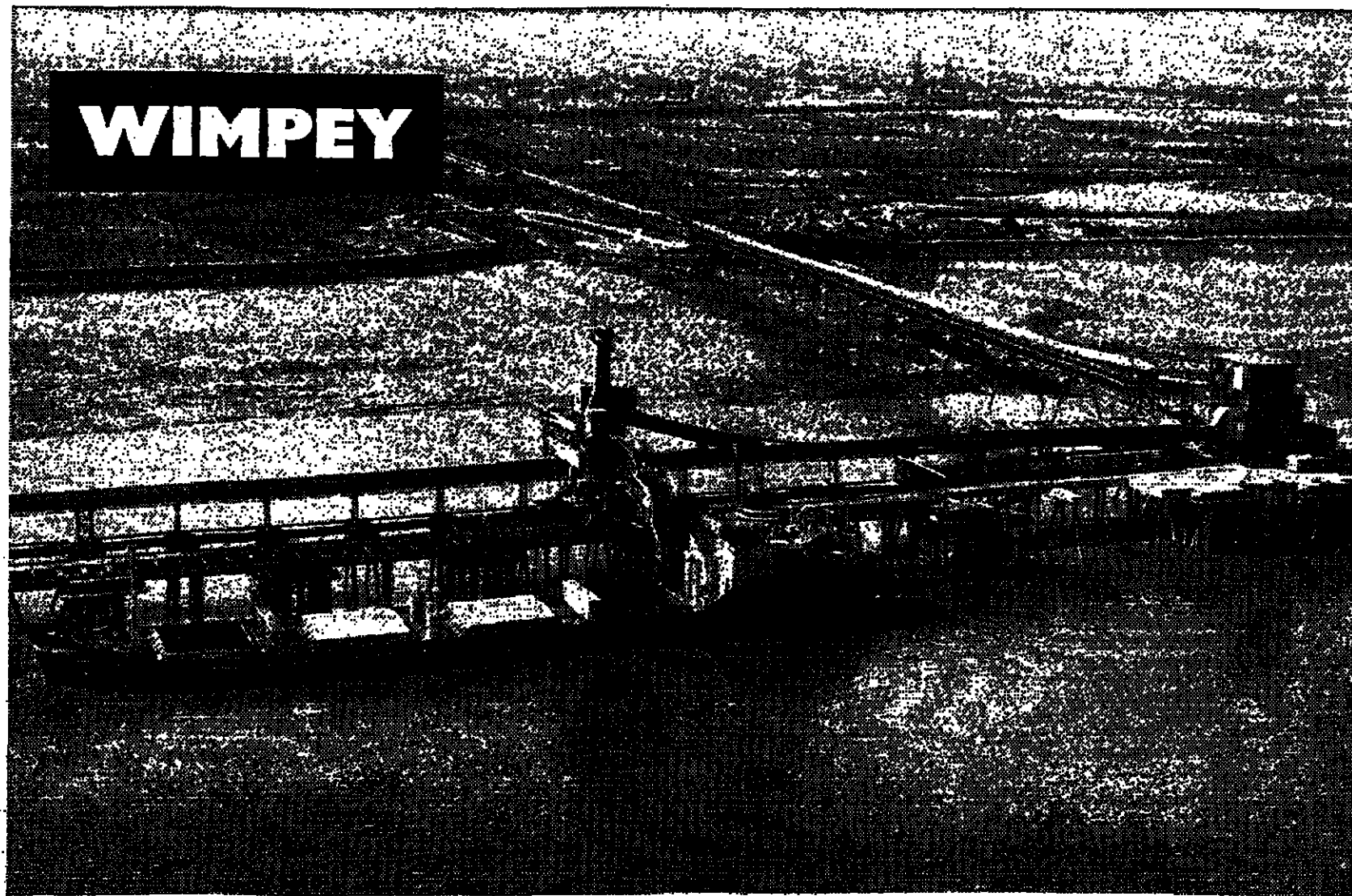
BOAC pilot: "Well I would dispute that wholeheartedly. If he was 1,000 ft I would be very surprised."

The El Al pilot reported: "Just passed a Comet ahead of us at the same level—VC10 excuse me."

The report says the aircraft were no fewer than 120 ft apart, but probably quite close to that.

Jetty-set George.

Going out to sea wasn't an easy job, not even for George Wimpey. For one thing, it meant working under challenging conditions of tides and currents. Tricky. But it wasn't beyond us—not much ever is. So there it stands. The dual purpose coal- and ore-handling jetty built for the N.C.B. and the B.S.C., at Immingham on the Humber, for which one of George's most distinguished family—Wimpey M.E. & C. Ltd—was Management Contractor. George pushes the pier out, come wind come weather.



Soroc Associates were retained by the NCB as Design Consultants for the initial stage

ENTERTAINMENTS GUIDE

ADELPHI (836 7611). Com. July 29

SHOW BOAT

ALDWYCH (836 6406)

A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM

(Tonight 7.30, Sat. 2.30 & 7.30 - all

OLD TIMES. Tues. 7.30, Wed. 8.00

THURS. 8.00, FRI. 8.00, SAT. 8.00, SUN. 8.00

AMBASSADORS (01-836 1771). Evs. 8.00

AGATHA CHRISTIE'S

THE MOUSETRAP

NINETEENTH BREATHING YEAR.

APOLLO (437 2463). Evenings 8.00

FORGET-ME-NOT-LANE

by Peter Nicholls.

ASHCROFT CROYDON (888 6291)

DOMINIC ROYCE PATRICIA TEMPLE

THE COUNTRY BOY

CAMBRIDGE (836 6056). Evs. 8.00

INGRID BERGMAN

JOSS ACKLAND

and KENNETH WILLIAMS in

CAPTAIN JACKSON'S

CONVERSION

Last 6 weeks Must Close July 31.

COCKPIT, NW 8, 868 7907. 8.00, 30p

Group about public planning.

COCKPIT, NW 8, 868 7907. 8.00, 30p

Group about public planning.

COMEDY (1330 2378). Evs. 8.15, Sat.

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THEATRES

GLOBE (437 1592). 7.30. Mat. Sat. 3.

ALAN BADEL as KEAN

A Comedy by Jean-Paul Sartre.

Ridiculous Comedy, acting superbly.

NAYMARKET (1330 9832). Evs. 8.00

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BARRIE MARTIN in

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HOW THE OTHER HALF LOVES

The play by J. B. Priestley

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GEORGE COLE in THE BEST COMEDY

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7.30. Sat. 7.30 & 7.50. Mat. Wed. 8.00

7.30. A WOMAN KILLED WITH

KINGNESS.

OPEN AIR, Regent's Park (436 2431).

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THEATRES

ROYAL COURT 750 1745. Pub. Rest.

JULY 2-5. 8.00. 8.30. 9.00. 9.30.

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Casting: Gordon Shakespeare at the

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The play by J. B. Priestley

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Lord Butler makes Munich 'credible'

By CAMPBELL PAGE

Lord Butler said last night that Munich, in his new book of memoirs, "is defended almost for the first time in a way which I think is credible."

Lord Butler, Master of Trinity College, Cambridge, and a former Conservative Minister, was being interviewed on Thames Television about "The Art of the Possible" to be published next month.

Water swamps Henley

By JOHN RODDA

JOHN GARTON, chairman of the Henley Regatta organising committee, stood on the lawn of the stewards' enclosure yesterday, looked out across the river and announced that the regatta would be rowed over the full course of 1 mile 550 yards unless of course we get more heavy rain.

Henley has been suffering, like most places, from too much water, which last week washed away the landing stages in front of the boat marquee, and put out of action the sensitive and crucial communications system.

The weather has delayed many preparations: for example, instead of using a catwalk in the press box in the middle of the river, rowing writers will make the journey to their seats by punt.

But the most important question is what effect the swollen stream has on the Henley Regatta. Henley's course is dead straight, but near the finish the river begins to curve, so that the crew on the open side gets the full force of the current, while oarsmen on the inside have a calmer water for the last 100 yards. In 1968, there was anger among crews that conditions were unfair. The stewards never admitted this, but this year the qualifying races, held last Friday and Saturday, were rowed over a slightly shortened course which finished before the disadvantage of the curve was felt.

Profits

To have used this course for the four days of the regatta — which starts tomorrow — would have switched the means from the rowers to the banks, and specifically to the stewards' enclosure, which would have been denied the best view of the last 100 yards of the course. Those who watch at Henley get as much consideration as those who compete, which may seem justifiable on a turnover of £60,000, with a profit last year of only just over £1,000.

Yesterday afternoon, the stream was running slower than it had done for the past few days. But the Thames Conservancy Board said that on the previous day, 2,000 million gallons of water went through a eddying neck, compared with an average for this time of year of 800,000 gallons.

The advance takings for Henley this year match last year's, but the organising committee is hoping that its new regatta enclosure, which has fruit machines and a bar, will bring back the public which used to come when a fair was held at the same time as the regatta.

Glasgow policemen gaoled

Four Glasgow policemen were sentenced at the High Court in Glasgow yesterday to a total of 22 years imprisonment for shopbreaking and theft.

Hugh Kilpatrick (41), said by the presiding judge, Lord Avonside, to be "obviously the ringleader in years and service," was sentenced to seven years. Robert Patterson Cooper (39), John Burns (31), and James Drummond Watt (28), were sentenced to five years. Kilpatrick had 10 commendations, Cooper seven, Burns four, and Watt 11.

All four were serving as constables in the Northern Division of Glasgow Police at the time of the offences. Kilpatrick admitted stealing articles from a car, tyres and other articles from a service station, and receiving golfing equipment.

Kilpatrick, Burns, and Watt admitted breaking into a sub-post office and general store in Glasgow, stealing 1,370 cigars, 10,540 cigarettes, tobacco, and £9 cash. Cooper admitted to receiving 3,310 cigarettes and 500 cigars, and Cooper, Burns, and Watt to stealing golfing equipment.

All four also pleaded guilty to breaking into a public-house and stealing 182 bottles of whisky, 12 bottles of rum, 12 bottles of gin, a bottle of vodka, and 3,000

Prices before Market in Greenwich

JUDGING by the candidates — now five — the Greenwich byelection is unambiguously about the Common Market. Yesterday, Mr Reginald E. G. Simmerson filed his papers as a Conservative candidate for the Common Market constituency.

Mr David J. S. Davies, registered as another anti-market candidate (he is against privatisation and the present financial structure, too). This leaves only the officially supported Tory, Mr Stuart Thom, as a pro-Market candidate for the vote on July 8.

The electorate is sticking relentlessly to the issue of prices and — in Labour's view — unemployment. Mr Guy Barnett, aged 42, the Labour candidate, says after a week on the doorstep that the Market is coming up only in phrases like "What have we got to do with the Germans?" and "I fought alongside the New Zealanders in the last war." But the big issue, he says, is rising food bills, no overtime, short-time working, and increases in rates. Labour's tactic is to fight on the anxieties it finds during canvassing, and to leave the Market until late in the campaign when, hopefully, the party leadership may have made up its own mind. Mr Barnett does not dispute, however, that he feels just now to advertise his long-standing anti-Market position.

Labour is pursuing the line that, in the generally favoured South-east, Greenwich has been deprived — 30,000 jobs lost in the past 20 years — and should get some special development area status. "When they read about UCS the people in Greenwich have actual experience

of what unemployment means," says Mr Barnett. The ABC clause hit the headlines, but many small firms have left the industrially declining riverside zone with its ageing workforce for brighter prospects in new towns.

Stuart Thom is an animated 28-year-old Scotsman with a creditable Young Conservative record in the North-west. He is now with a Park Lane business consultancy

CANDIDATES: Guy Barnett (Labour); Stuart Thom (Conservative); Mr David Davies (Independent); Mr Ronald Mallone (Fellowship Party); Mr Reginald Simmerson (Conservative against the Market).

General Election: Marsh (Lab) 20,804 (55.7pc); Thom (Con) 13,195 (35.3pc); Wylam (Lib) 3,319 (8.9pc). Labour majority: 7,609 (20.4pc). Electorate 56,831. Poll 65 pc.

POLLING DATE: July 8.

and fought Greenwich against Richard Marsh last June. Mr Marsh's appointment as chairman of British Rail has caused the byelection.

Mr Thom says he is happy to fight on the Government's record and tells his supporters: "You voted for a change in 1970, and it would be inconsistent to go against that decision now." There is a catalogue of Conservative achievement for him to recite — the halving of SET, 6d off income

tax, the Industrial Relations Bill, and pensions for the over 80s. But prices sweep these successes aside as the main issue. "I have been encouraged," says Mr Thom bravely, "to see how much they appreciate that within a year you will not have all the answers. The Conservative Government faced the same problem when they came to power in 1951. In a little over a year the price rises had been constrained and the stage was set for the famous 13 years."

The "Daily Mirror" discovery of a 9p drop in the price of a shopping bag of supplies is nailed to the Tory headquarters gate, and Mr Thom is hoping to name shops and prices in the constituency where goods have become cheaper because of the reduction in SET. But all in all, the Tories are defensive: "One recognises that this is a Labour seat," says the candidate, "but we are going to mobilise our vote." He expects to do at least as well as in 1970. Mr Barnett, winner of South Dorset for Labour in 1962 when the Opposition split on the Common Market, is running a showy campaign. His van has an ice-cream chime tinkle.

"To cut the prices at a stroke To Sallor Ted was one big joke Jokers Heath has had his day Vote him out the Barnett way."

Labour Party workers are displaying pictures of Mr Heath wearing his metal smile with the caption "Ted's big laugh." The text on the back is about prices. "I do not want his picture," said one woman tearing it up. Mr

Barnett says with theatrical gloom: "District of the Prime Minister is so deep."

Of the fringe contestants, Mr Ronald Mallone, aged 55, Fellowship Party, has been longest in this contest and has fought the seat three times before. He has been active in the peace movement since 1931 and says that he "strongly opposes the whip system, and entry into the Common Market."

Labour has allies it can do without in the fight: the National Front has had its preferred support against the Market repudiated. Labour also has great portents for success — there is only one Conservative councillor left in the constituency today after the May county elections where, three years ago, they held 16 out of 21 seats.

Greenwich has been Labour since the war. It has become increasingly a haven for trendies — but they seem to bring a trendy Left-wing commitment with them. As a constituency it is like a less raw version of Liverpool, Scotland rising from the river and up the hill in increasingly mellow gradation towards the ancient village of Charlton. And just as the Protestants command the Everton heights so the Catholics command a gloomy omen for all the intending MPs in the byelection — the bones of anti-Catholic emancipator Spencer Perceval, the only British Prime Minister to be assassinated.

John O'Callaghan

● BELOW: Guy Barnett, Labour, canvassing in Greenwich yesterday



Methodists told 'people waiting for a lead'

By BADEN HICKMAN, Churches Correspondent

The Methodist Church is to try to make a common declaration of faith, and to rediscover its essential unity and purpose. It wishes to cast off theological confusion, internal disunity, and as one speaker described it, at the Church's Conference at Harrogate yesterday, sheer loss of nerve. The testing moment came in a peculiar and totally unexpected way.

The busy conference week had begun by some blunt references to the heavy strain under which the Church is operating. More than £90,000 alone was paid out of central funds last year to help about half the 300 circuits to pay their ministers' wages. Delegates were told it was all a troublesome time of readjustment.

Then, on a special motion, the statement of the Church transformed the conference. They were the Rev. R. Hubert Luke, chairman of the Cornwall District, and Dr William Strawson, of Queen's College, Birmingham.

They persuaded delegates to take to themselves as official policy an independent report "For Such a Time as This," by the Rev. Douglas S. Hubery, secretary of the Methodist Education Department, which prophesies the death of the Church unless unity replaces disruption and bewilderment.

Dr Strawson said the time had come to stop the retreat, it need not go on for ever. "The people are waiting for a lead," he added. There was a need to reconsider and restate what the Methodist Church stood for.

The time had passed when the best the Church could do was to be like everyone else. "The Church is for which it is people called Methodists were called by this conference to a new enthusiasm. And to a new devotion," he said.

Professor H. Cecil Pawson, a former vice-president, said that given the lead and the revival of the natural zeal of Methodism, there were thousands who would respond to the call.

The president, the Rev. Kenneth Waights, told conference: "The Church is for which it is ultimately responsible. A deficit of £106,275 may result in 1971-2, because of rising prices. A deficit of £29,233 is anticipated for the year which ended in March."

The report said: "There is a demand in many parts of the country for new projects, but there can be no further development of the Home's work unless there is a substantial increase in voluntary subscriptions."

Church on the defensive to a Church moving into national leadership."

The president's council, the Church's new "cabinet," will consider as one of its first items the bringing together of representatives of the different inter-brethren of the Bible and Christian theology. They will be asked to compile that which is held common.

Mr Hubery, for his part, said he hoped it was the beginning of a truly radical movement that would bring the Church back to its essential mission. For 10 years many ordinary members had been increasingly confused by the debates of the academics and theologians.

The conference heard worrying news from the annual report of the National Council of the Home, for which it is ultimately responsible. A deficit of £106,275 may result in 1971-2, because of rising prices. A deficit of £29,233 is anticipated for the year which ended in March.

The report said: "There is a demand in many parts of the country for new projects, but there can be no further development of the Home's work unless there is a substantial increase in voluntary subscriptions."

Man 'set alight by wife'

A woman threw paraffin over her husband and set him alight with matches. It was alleged at the Central Criminal Court yesterday.

Mr Michael Corkery, prosecuting, said the husband died in hospital 11 days later from severe burns.

Urgula Lolita Sobers (39), of Sperling Road, Tottenham, the mother of three children, has pleaded not guilty to murdering her husband, Hamilton (31).

Mr Corkery said that Mrs Sobers' mother had heard her daughter and son-in-law talking together. Later, she heard Mr Sobers shouting: "Oh gran, Oh gran, I am burning."

She claimed that her daughter said: "He gripped me on my throat. He has no business doing that. So I threw paraffin over him and set him on fire." Mrs Sobers later had told police that her husband had gone off with a bad woman while in Barbados.

Mrs Sobers told the Court that she did not intend to kill her husband. She threw a paraffin can at him, but did not mean the paraffin to go over him. She threw lighted matches at him, but only to frighten him. The trial was adjourned until today.

Fracas at Old Bailey

Traffic stopped and members of the public helped police when a fight broke out among demonstrators outside the Central Criminal Court yesterday.

The demonstrators had been passing outside the court buildings for several days, protesting about a trial involving four men who have pleaded not guilty to riotous assembly and assault on police officers at a Black Panthers' dance in South-east London.

A white bystander had been seen arguing with a coloured youth, while the jury was out considering the case. A policeman tried to calm the demonstrators but a fight broke out. Barristers, ushers, and other staff returning to the court after the lunch recess watched two policemen struggling with about 10 youths and girls. Then several members of the public joined in as a coloured man was led away.

Fighting broke out as police tried to take several demonstrators away. One coloured man wrapped himself round a young policeman. Three or four demonstrators jumped on to him and knocked off his helmet as he fell into the gutter, where he was kicked and punched.

Demonstrators called out "pigs" and "She ain't doing nothing" when police held the girl. About 20 coloured men and women tried to surge across the road after her, but police reinforcements arrived and held them back. Traffic was held up.

One witness, who declined to give his name, said he saw a policeman call one of the protesters, who had been parading in the middle of the road, over to the pavement. The others followed to ask why the man had been singled out, and if he was being arrested.

Soon afterwards, the fight broke out. Plainclothes detectives who had been giving evidence at trials joined uniformed police officers.

Two other eyewitnesses, who also would not give their names, said they were going to the police station to protest at the way in which the affair had been handled by the police.

A Press Association reporter who saw the incident said that a coloured girl received a punch in the mouth during the fight.

School age assurance

There was no question of the Government going back on its commitment to raise the school-leaving age to 16 from September 1972, Mr William van Straubenzee, a Parliamentary Under-Secretary for Education, said at Barry, Glamorgan, yesterday. Education authorities had been preparing for a long time, and the last Government had made substantial allocations of capital.

Petitions signed by 16,753 Scottish teachers, opposing the raising of the school-leaving age, were presented to Mr Edward Taylor, Parliamentary Under-Secretary for Education, in Glasgow yesterday.

Children may get village

A remote village in Caernarvonshire may be taken over for a centrally handicapped children. CARE, a charity concerned with these children is considering the acquisition of Nantgwyneth, a cluster of slate quarry cottages. The charity, which already has a village for children in Devon, desperately needs another and is having talks with the owners of Nantgwyneth, the Amalgamated Roadstone Corporation.

Truancy bothers London Tories

By RICHARD BOURNE, Education Correspondent

A row over truancy in secondary schools in Inner London will surface at tomorrow's meeting of the Inner London Education Authority's education committee.

The Conservative members have put down a motion asking for an urgent inquiry into the scale of truancy, the success of the educational welfare service in combating it, and for a report in time for the raising of the school leaving age next year. A counter amendment from the Labour majority points out that the new educational welfare service has been operating for less than a year, that it is looking into truancy, and that the schools' subcommittee should report the results.

The existence of truancy is not a party issue in Inner London though it may not be worse than in other British cities. Mrs John Geddes, leader of the Conservative minority, claimed yesterday that the attendance rate at some London schools had fallen to less than 75 per cent. Dame Kathleen Ollerenshaw, former chairman of the Manchester education committee, reported her concern last year that overall attendance figures for the city were down to about 85 per cent.

Evidence from the 1960s suggests that truancy has been a small problem in Britain until recently. But there have been signs in the past two or three years that, at the very time when teenagers are flocking to join technical colleges and start higher education, growing numbers are anxious to escape school at all costs. Truancy is traditionally highest among teenagers who would leave when they are 15, and many secondary schools tend to fall apart after examinations during the summer term.

However, the row over truancy may quickly become a row about extending compulsory education for another year. As some of those who are keenest to drop out of school are among those who would most like to enter a technical college, it is at least possible that it is a certain type of education, rather than education itself, that promotes the desire to escape.

Cleared of ballot charges

A councillor accused of election conspiracy was cleared of the charge yesterday at Essex Assizes sitting in Chelmsford. Michael Anthony Sims (31), of Canham Road, Great Cornard, Suffolk, was found not guilty on the direction of Commissioner Kenneth Jones, QC, after a defence submission.

The commissioner told the jury: "Mr Sims having given evidence, the Crown have now indicated that they will not now feel justified in asking you to return a verdict of guilty."

Sims, a draughtsman, was cleared of conspiring to cause postal ballot papers to be issued to people not entitled to them and to others whose application forms had been falsely certified.

He was also found not guilty of two other charges, on which the commissioner had indicated earlier in the trial that there was no case to answer.

Three other men are accused of offences relating to a West Suffolk County Council byelection at Sudbury, in June last year. They are: Thomas Douglas (46), the successful Labour candidate in the election, and Michael Corish (34), both of Head Lane, Great Cornard, and Dr John Waller (51), of Newton Road, Sudbury.

Mr Malcolm Morris QC, prosecuting, began his final address to the jury yesterday and will continue today.

Abortion tout sought

Heathrow Airport-London anti-abortion tout police squad were yesterday looking for a tout who whisked away to a Bournemouth clinic three French girls who were already booked to have abortions at a London clinic.

The women flew into London from Paris at the weekend but while they waited for a hire car to take them from the airport a tout persuaded them to go with him to a clinical advisory bureau in London and then on to a Bournemouth nursing home.

A police officer said yesterday that the inspector in charge of the investigation had interviewed two of the girls — one of whom had been detained at the Bournemouth clinic suffering complications from the operation.

Baton change

The American conductor, Lorin Maazel, will conduct the London Symphony Orchestra at the Royal Albert Hall, on Thursday in place of Leopold Stokowski, who has been ordered to take a seven-week rest. Maazel is associate principal conductor of the New Philharmonia Orchestra.

Navy is drowning in technology

From DAVID FAIRHALL: Portsmouth, Hampshire, Monday

for warships. No wonder that the cost of ASWE has been steadily rising and no wonder that the Admiralty Surface Weapons Establishment today opened its gates to the public for the first time since the end of the Second World War.

The Director, Mr H. W. Pout, said he was glad of an opportunity to fight back at the establishment's critics, and the elaborate displays — open for the rest of this week — certainly provided the ammunition. The equipment under development here ranges from the Seadart and Seawolf anti-aircraft missiles for a new generation of Royal Navy vessels in ring lasers for inertial navigation and the world's first operational satellite

of oceanic presence at a price the country can afford. Its vessels will certainly have to become more specialised, and the requirement to fit many of them, from frigates upwards, with the French Exocet anti-submarine missile — a modern equivalent of the Russian Styx — means that some will no longer carry a gun. Yet there are occasions when nothing but a gun is really flexible enough; witness the anti-submarine frigate which found that it had no way of stopping a blockade-running tanker on the Beira patrol recently, short of sinking her.

The solution must surely be twofold: a clear concept of the job the Navy is required to do and much more ruthlessness in eliminating unnecessary complexity in the equipment that is considered essential. The ASWE believes that it has made one important contribution to the design of the computerised operations for the new type 21 and 22 frigates. This has only six plotting consoles, of deliberately limited scope, each of which can be shared by several operators. Compared with the daunting array of about 40 consoles developed for the new type 82 cruiser, HMS Bristol (2 destroyer), it looks refreshingly compact and simple to operate. As one engineer put it: "In my view it's the first system we've designed where we have not been mesmerised by the computer."

One highly topical piece of technological fallout from the establishment's work is a collision avoidance radar system for merchant ships. It enables the navigating officer to plot the projected courses of up to 10 ships in his vicinity and, by adjusting his own ship's simulated course and speed on the radar screen, to check whether he is running into danger and what avoiding action to take.

The ASWE design has served as a feasibility study for industry and a number of commercial designs are now on the market. More fundamental, though not necessarily more useful, is the development of the ring laser which may eventually replace the gyroscope in inertial navigation systems, used, for example, by Polaris missile submarines which cannot afford to surface.

Handwritten signature or mark.

If there is one quality that is outstanding in his works it is a daring improvisation. He has developed a remarkable, almost unique ability of making the reader feel he's almost totally involved in what is happening. Few writers can achieve this kind of convincing spontaneity, where form and content fuse perfectly . . .

I WENT TO INTERVIEW Nicholas Mosley at his house in Hampstead, and we were talking about the relationship of art to life. He was wearing his arms in the air, and his voice became more high pitched, which seemed to happen whenever he was seriously involved in the conversation. "Every sentence," he was saying to a Reynolds painting in the far corner of the room, "should be a description of some external action at the same time as demonstrating someone's awareness that they are doing it. . . . Suddenly he doubles up—I thought at first with laughter—and cried, 'I'm on fire.' Smoke was rising from his trousers which he had been absently rubbing against the electric fan. Later we went to an Indian restaurant and the conversation turned more towards the relationship of life to art.

Nicholas Mosley (also Lord Ravensdale—title inherited from aunt, eldest daughter of Lord Curzon). Born 1924. Went to Eton. Joined British Brigade in 1942. Commissioned 1943. Served in Italy in 1943-45. Wounded. Demobilised 1946. Went to Oxford; left after one year to get married. Lived on small hill farm in N. Wales; wrote two novels, had two children. Moved to Sussex. One more novel; one more child. Travelled round Africa 1957; wrote travel book "African Switchback". Became editor of "Prism", an Anglican magazine; left 1960. Wrote "Experience and Religion" and "The Life of Raymond Raynes"—the biography of a monk. One more novel; one more child (four in all). "Accident" (5th novel) 1968; "Assassins" 1969; and "Impossible Objects" 1967. Five paintings. Published new novel "Natalie Natalia" yesterday. (Hodder and Stoughton, £2.25.)

Asked what he is aiming at as a writer, Mosley tells of a Canadian girl whom he got to type out the final version of "Impossible Objects". She told me she had never read anything except detective stories; then one day in the middle of typing she suddenly said, "Are books usually like this?" I replied "No I hope not." She said, "But this is like life—I know a friend who feels exactly like this about her boy friend." You see, to her books meant fantasy . . .

As a writer Mosley undoubtedly can convey with a depth and quiet honesty what he feels about life. It is not in grandiose gestures but by simply facing the facts that some kind of trust and containment of damage can be reached. But if there is one quality that is outstanding in his works it is a daring improvisation. He has developed a remarkable, almost unique ability of making the reader feel he's totally involved in what is happening. Few writers (John Selby in the *Tru La La* chapter of "Last Exit to Brooklyn" does it briefly) can achieve this kind of convincing spontaneity, where form and content fuse perfectly and where the words not only describe but also actually contain an experience. In all Mosley's books there are spontaneous examples of this, but it has been brilliantly developed in "Natalie Natalia", where there are two remarkable passages of complete spontaneity.

"I am obsessed," Mosley says, looking at his trousers to see how burnt they are, "by trying to understand how human beings work. This makes novels important for me, since they are the best records of man's attempts to describe what a human being is. I always start by saying 'I'll write a straightforward story, but I can't—it's absolute muck, a terribly boring activity. You see, one is concerned with the situation as it is and this must be reflected in the style. To describe how man works now, without being two-dimensional, you have to find opposites at the same time—only through opposites can you say what man is."

He claps his hands together loudly to convey the impact of opposites; a mouse runs across the floor of the restaurant, Mosley says. This is Natalie's favourite restaurant; then

half apologises—I think for the mouse. After another drink of wine he continues.

"In 'Accident' the characters ask themselves questions as they go along—not sleep-walking, interior monologue stuff, but practically, with a certain amount of self mockery. Stephen can know at the same time how much he loves his wife and yet dream of someone else; that he is being loyal to Charlie, yet how dubious are his motives. This is the sort of thing people are conscious of nowadays—only do not often put into words."

Mosley has mapped out a language of the relationship between a conscious and subconscious within a person and between people. But this language does not describe what we normally regard as reality, something definite, clear-cut—rather, it is necessarily ambiguous, and this creates problems. The most difficult task for Mosley is to convince the reader of the reality of this vaporous space between reflection and action, where the possibility of freedom is wrestled with and narrowed down into practical choices. One could criticise his writing on the grounds that although the inner or spiritual world of his characters is invariably convincing, the external action doesn't always contain sufficient practical choices to counterbalance this inner energy, so the writing sometimes can become irritatingly ethereal. It's as though Mosley was continuously pointing the contracting lens of a telescope at life and events, and the enlarging lens at his hero's inner world. As a result he has to resort to an overworked humour, a kind of slapstick farce.

Mosley replies to this criticism by saying that he refuses to "fix reality."—if the action doesn't balance with the inner state of a character, then that's life. "Either it works or it's farcical."

he says of his writing. "You go on and on, and one dark night or early morning you know this is what you ought to be writing, and you realise how hard it is." He lights a cheroot. "By now I have some sort of confidence that if one goes on and on one will get it right. There are always some sentences on the page which don't get altered—they stand there like a rock in the sea, then one goes on until hopefully the whole book becomes a rock."

However, in spite of his desire to stand outside himself and his own experience, there remain certain constant influences on him which provide a reasonably stable framework within which he writes and which create the necessary tension between external and internal reality.

Among these are his political upbringing and the influence of his father, Oswald Mosley. "This made me aware of the uselessness of social and political activity. I saw clearly that while the right hand dealt with grandiose ideas and glory, the left hand let the rat out of the sewer." The fact that Mosley has never had to earn his living pushed him further away from social involvement. His mother died when he was nine and left him a private income. The only times he has ever worked—in the conventional sense of the word—were when he tried to run a hill farm in Wales, and when he edited "Prism". For a writer, it's double-edged," Mosley comments. "You are able to write, but you don't have the experience most people have to go through. And even if you did try to get jobs it wouldn't be the same, because one wouldn't have to do it."

Other influences on him as a writer are what he calls a "certain commitment to my family, a passionate care about children and the way older people influence the young—the only way to change the world is by one's

children being better than oneself." Another strong influence is his immersion in Christianity which provides images and a language to enable him to give a universal significance and meaning to the particular events or people he is writing about. He was never committed to the Church as such, but he feels he's now reached a crisis point. "Natalie Natalia" is stuffed with Christian images and a commitment to search for the truth about human beings I regard as intensely religious."

He answers questions about his life frankly and with an impressive sense that he's thought everything through and stands outside himself. He hasn't actually given away his money, but he thinks about it. There is always a frustrating period, he says, when he can only think of going to India or South America to teach or get involved in some worthwhile activity. Instead, he usually gets off on a long journey, for instance, in the middle of writing "Impossible Objects" he travelled round Mexico, "looking at works of art, and talking absolutely to no one." At the moment he knows the direction in which his writings will go but not yet the style he will have to use.

"Look, I don't want to write about death. Life is what interests me, with all its quivering enigmas," he says, like an actor, self-mockingly. "The whole of Western literature," he goes on, becoming angrier, "is a sort of savage comedy or about stringing old women up—that's what we regard as reality, the cutting edge of death. Life

means stating both sides of the case. It never has a clearcut answer. It's how to go on living that's important. Dying is easy, anybody can do it. God, one saw it in the trenches during the war, sleeping next to corpses and seeing how ordinary death is. It's only this generation now that is so obsessed with death because they've never seen it."

Perhaps he should write children's stories?

If you think about it, "Winnie the Pooh" is about the only happy book in Western literature," he says, raising his voice. An Indian waiter comes over and asks apologetically if he wants anything more. Mosley goes on to say that he is writing a film script for Joseph Losey on Trotsky who interests Mosley because he has an awareness of human issues, a complete contrast to successful politicians like Stalin who cut right through that."

As the conversation develops Mosley throws out more and more dependent clauses, half finished sentences, often trailing off into vague gestures of his hands. His conversation tends to move into an ethereal, vaguely dreamlike realm where words no longer hold fast—exactly the opposite direction to the bend of his writing. The problem of locating Mosley, even when one is with him, seems a real one. It is also a problem with the characters in his books. When one goes to his house, it seems as though nobody lives there—it has the atmosphere of an art gallery after closing time. Then when one meets him—tall, immensely humorous, a mind that teases and plays with ideas—one thinks of Mayakovsky's description of the artist . . . not a man, but a cloud in trousers."

Mosley is aware of this effect he creates on others, especially on his own family. His withdrawal into writing or "private punches" as he describes the painful, lonely struggle to six words on the page, seems to others "an escape from the real punches going on around. But I believe that what happens to you when you are writing affects the situation outside."

What is most important about understanding Mosley—and proof if he needs it, of an almost heroic commitment to writing—is that he lives totally from his imagination, so that rather than withdrawing from experience to write, in the process of writing he creates his own world. One could call it remembering the future or forward memory. "This has happened a number of times," he says, "and it's rather frightening. After I'd finished 'Impossible Objects' things happened which I'd written about, and the same thing happened again after 'Natalie Natalia'."

What does he mean by this? Last summer Mosley had a near fatal car accident. He was rushed to hospital in a critical condition and had to stay there eight months, most of the bones in his body having been broken. "It was most uncanny," he says. "I'd nearly killed myself finishing 'Natalie Natalia' then seven days later I actually was nearly killed. There were all sorts of other things as well, in my personal life, which first emerged in the writing of the book. Anyway, after I'd got out of hospital, the Somerset farmer who'd driven into me said in the court, 'An uncontrollable force took hold of the steering wheel of the car, and suddenly it shot across the road.' Those were his actual words. . . ."

Will he write about it? "It's what I'm fiddling with now," he says. "Being in hospital was strange—being crippled like that, strung up on pulleys for eight months, I felt closer to people, things I could see them more clearly, as though everyone is crippled in some way or other. My wife said it seemed as though all the burdens had been lifted from me. . . . It will probably take five years to describe it."

Burton and Nucleus remain at the club until July 10; Santamaria only until tomorrow night.

which links Osibisa to Africa. Santamaria himself keeps the whole thing driving forward, while his fellow conga drummer, Armando Peraza, bursts through occasionally with some incredibly fast hand movements.

Burton and Nucleus remain at the club until July 10; Santamaria only until tomorrow night.

ST GEORGE'S

Nicholas de Jongh

Guthrie tribute

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL tributes were paid to Tyrone Guthrie on Sunday at St. George's Church, Kingston, a building like the Round House, which is to be converted into a theatre modelled on Shakespeare's Globe Playhouse. Guthrie was the chairman of the theatre's advisory board; natural therefore that he should be remembered here; but how dram, how far from the man the programme was. What was Guthrie to this or that to Guthrie one wondered: a host of young stars like Alan Bates and Peter McEnery, Elizabethan music and song, recorded tributes from the theatre, knights and Dame Sybil. From the snippets of Shakespeare (Michael Williams as Hal or John Neville showing the rest how to speak sixteenth century verse superbly) arrived, an impression of a bright sixth form, at an end of term concert. The spirit of Guthrie, glorious, busy and irreverent never arrived.

Though Ian Wallace with memories of Sir Tyrone's last production ("ideas gushing like an oil well, slippers on the feet, gauntlets flung down everywhere) briefly summoned a memory, Peter McEnery made a glorious Mark Antony. Without any avowed purpose of reflecting the man and his works, without any imaginative scheme this was a commemoration best forgotten.

Hugo Cole's review appeared in later editions, *evening*.

NICHOLAS MOSLEY

by Timothy Wilson



picture of Nicholas Mosley by Mark Carson

review

LEICESTER ART

Myfanwy Kitchin

Art Spectrum

TRADITIONALLY the artistic temperament doesn't take kindly to organisation. Art Spectrum Central is an exhibition with work from all the Midlands and East Anglian counties, one of the vast seven divisions which the Arts Council have made of the British Isles. The organisation is terrible. It is showing at Leicester City Art Gallery until July 26 (then Coventry and Lincoln).

There's a room with black walls with a cubicle made of black curtains holding constructions using lights. Example, fluorescent lights on a black sculptural base (George Hostler)—a less forceful tall structure with lights rods (David Taver). On the walls are several white. Example, a white canvas (Brian French)—a bas-relief sculpture of interlocking modules and tubes in light metals (George Pickard).

Another room, with off-white walls, dark or nearly black, are very dark purple and green. Example, the canvases (Geoffrey Machin) of interlocking triangles incorporating a green board (Robert Tegg). All the prints are in this room, many an unobtrusive (out of the 51 works) with paintings are collected into a corner. Example, a sketch-like impression of Laurence, a chair (Arnold Van Praag)—a female nude in front of a carefully brickied-in background (John Wyatt).

In the large main hall there are some paintings in pastel colours in

tight designs. Example, squares with a grid pattern with flat colour and flecked colour (Laurence Anthony). Some of the works here are at their worst in a mixed exhibition. Generally speaking these are designed for a particular environment, usually at doors. Their philosophy just doesn't come across here. An individual work has always been at a disadvantage in a mixed exhibition, and for several reasons this disadvantage is more so with all contemporary art.

In a survey of this kind it is natural to look for regional characteristics. There is one artist, and only one, who was born, trained and lived in the same county. His is a characteristic painting of a typical small dark grey house against light grey sky (Jack Simcock). The three adjudicators note in their catalogue that the traditionally regional water colour landscape came in strongly from East Anglia, but to keep the idiomatic unity of the exhibition they were out among the rejects.

The purpose of regional exhibitions, expressed by Viscount Eccles (who opened the exhibition) is to show contemporary art to the people of the region and to give young artists a chance. The purpose of this series for the Arts Council in London is to select an exhibition of British art for the Hayward Gallery in 1972. The artists at the opening of the exhibition were neither particularly interested in being understood by the general public, nor temperamentally enthusiastic about the rat race to London. They were only interested in doing their particular thing right. Therefore it is natural that Art Spectrum is not going to look like a survey with good examples of the kind of art officially established.

FESTIVAL HALL

Hugo Cole.

RPO concert

THREE PIECES from Alexander Goehr's full-scale opera "Arden Must Die" played by the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra under Lawrence Foster at RPO on Sunday revealed a far less complex composer than the man

who wrote the orchestral works, the piano trio and the chamber operas. Goehr no doubt allowed both for the mass audience and rehearsal conditions prevailing in international opera houses when he wrote the work for Hamburg in 1967. The surprising thing is how completely he seems to assume another personality, the miniaturist turned scene painter (miniaturist, that is, in the larger works in textures and microstructure rather than in overall conception).

The three extracts scarcely stand on their own as self-contained pieces like the Peter Grimes extracts, but they act very successfully as trailers, giving us some idea of the sharp, epigrammatic style, power to create atmosphere and tension by direct and economical musical means. There is perhaps a hint of Weill in the first statements of this wind and percussion score. Yet these pieces have a strong character of their own, and make me want very much to see the whole opera. How good to hear a Goehr work that can be adequately performed under normal concert-going conditions.

Vladimir Ashkenazy, in Beethoven's Third Concerto made the RPO Steinway sound in unfamiliar and uncharacteristic ways, with the absolute clarity in separate parts, and even in the torrential rushings of the cadenzas, that generally go with much lighter-toned instruments than the potentially deafening concert grands in use today. There seemed to be, virtually, no anachronistic sounds in Ashkenazy's Beethoven. The RPO accompanied particularly well, with the neatness and precision that such playing deserved.

Schubert's C Major Symphony was given technically one of the best all-round performances I have heard lately from this orchestra, with concentration never lapsing throughout. Poster, always watchful over detail, loses some of the expansive ease of the work in his closely-controlled interpretation which seems to allow little scope for individual wind soloists to put over anything of his own interpretation. I find that the extravagant slow down for the cello line in the middle of the slow movement does not fit in with the generally matter of fact approach, and doubled horns sometimes stuck right out of the ensemble. The light-toned woodwind of this orchestra could well have been doubled at times instead: quaver figures in the scherzo were sometimes lost altogether. But the trombones sensitive and subdued, were at just the right level throughout.

RONNIE SCOTT'S

Ronald Atkins

Gary Burton

I HAVE HEARD Gary Burton on record, in concert and on TV, but there seems to be no substitute for catching him at the Ronnie Scott Club. The tight interaction between his vibraphone and whoever happens to be playing guitar thrives on the closest possible contact with an audience. The harder Burton works the more percussive his attack, and the more intricate become the cross-rhythms tossed around by his quartet. That is what jazz is all about—an important part, anyway—but for some reason jazzmen have rarely exploited the vibraphone's percussive qualities, even though its African heritage is pretty obvious. Burton has perhaps been forced down this path by the sheer immensity of his technical command, and it is to his credit that his unaccompanied passages lose little of the momentum built up by the ensemble.

This is not his regular group from the US but a scratch quartet, filled out by members of Nucleus who are also on the bill, John Marshall, Roy Babington and Chris Spedding seem to have fitted in with no trouble, and Spedding's neat guitar solos and expert prodding behind Burton add a great deal to the performance. The newer pieces that Burton plays, several of them written by Keith Jarrett, adapt readily to his updated country blues idiom, and together I find him just as enjoyable as ever, even though there is no longer the element of surprise.

The rhythmic impact of Burton's music is such that he does not suffer from being juxtaposed with Mongo Santamaria. Santamaria has been mining the jazz-rock-conga drum field for several years, and his first appearance here has coincided with the belated rise in popularity of this type of music. Compared to such groups as Osibisa, Santamaria's octet is Latin rather than Afro: the soloists are more declamatory, and the trend lies more towards individual expression than towards the total collective commitment

THOMAS WISEMAN

Travel has become a branch of fiction, serving the purpose of getting a person out of himself, transporting him to distant and exotic places in a way that was once effected by the storyteller

THE CURRENT BOOM form of show-bus travel is not just escapism but escape—and it has produced its own sub-literature. Like pornography, which it resembles in certain basic respects, the travel brochure describes endless delights that only someone of the most unflagging appetites could engage in, though served up in the ad man's easily assimilable prose the pleasures, in anticipation at least, can be taken at a gulp.

It is my impression that travel has become a branch of fiction, serving the purpose of getting a person out of himself, transporting him to distant and exotic places in a way that was once effected by the storyteller. It is done now by Alitalia and Aeroflot and BOAC. Just as IBM suddenly discovered that it was not in the business of making office equipment but in communications, so the airlines and the shipping lines are going to find out any day now that they are not so much in transport as in daydreams. Already their literature reflects this, although the pretence is maintained that what is going on is travelling.

Not at all, in my opinion: what is going on is arrival, which is something else.

As you leaf through the travel literature and the lush imagery laps over you like melting ice cream, you realise that the dreams are all derivative, and that last time round the enticing sights and sensations were being offered by Hollywood movies, with their traditional exhortations to SEE, SEE, SEE.

Now the tourist goes to see what he has already seen in the movies. I would relate the present boom in travel to the changes that occurred in movie making in the fifties when the studio re-creation of places like London and Venice and Paris gave way to the fashion for location filming. I would guess that most people who travel by package tour today have derived their ideas of abroad from the movies; and for this reason the standards of luxury, glamour, beauty and romance offered by these tours are all movie standards. The world of heated swimming pools, dalliance in the sun, the luxurious living and eating, once the exclusive habitat of the film star, has been mass-produced so that everybody can have a lick. The fact that people are in a manner of speaking living this kind of life hardly makes it less vicious than when they were merely watching it on the screen or reading about it.

No, I think it is all a story; that the trip is a form of fiction in which the traveller engages in accordance with a scenario known as an itinerary. I don't think it really happens. I don't think people really go anywhere in this way. The travel literature, the package tour, is a good example of many cases better. The places at which those props of the imagination, the aeroplane and the ocean liner, undertake to deposit you are a rosy mirror image of the known world: there the courts, the castles, the palaces, the national cooking will delight the epicure, the water is fresh and pure, the sanitation nothing to worry about, the prices really quite reasonable, less than you thought, the hospitality irresistible, the atmosphere say, it's never too hot in the summer nor too cold in the winter. This place looms into view when the boat emerges from the idyllic gulf of Poros, or its peaks are hidden in the clouds whose slopes are covered with lush subtropical verdure, or its forests are full of game, its towers are the highest, its shrines the oldest, and you can visit Lana Turner's dressing room.

When religion was given greater credence than today this place that I refer to was known as paradise, and it was thought that at best you might have a foretaste of it, but you only got there after you were dead. Today we are more impatient and want it now, and consumer demand must always be satisfied.

The point about paradise is that it must be somewhere other than where you are now, otherwise there is no profit in it for the carriers. Almost anywhere can be paradise if you work on it. Thus whatever you may have heard of pollution, crime, noise, mayhem, "Los Angeles is a disaster", "disaster" and "an American mecca". Whatever you may have heard of American cities coming apart at the seams, of property owners sleeping on the streets, of the teeth and tongue of a burglar alarm system, New York is still just the way you imagined it, with the Empire State Building "soaring", and down there is the Statue of Liberty, and Greenwiche, and the "colourful" and Fifth Avenue "smart". Quite true: the traveller arrives where he expected to arrive. Of course, the America described in the advance publicity is a fiction, just as the Russia in it is a fiction, where people want to go to a story land.

There you abandon yourself to the lush groves and orchards of Galata, to the pine clad hills of placid Spetsa, to the emerald seas and the dusky southern skies, to the curative properties of the waters.

Even the itineraries have a story quality, as if one is being assigned a character and a role in a given plot that one will then be required to enact: "After lunch at your hotel in Agrigento you will travel west to Castelvetrano, stopping en route at Selinunte, the Greek city of the fifth century destroyed by the Carthaginians. You will then . . ."

Who needs a thousand and one nights when Aeroflot offers 14 at the Crocus roads of the Ancient East, the place besieged by Alexander the Great and Genghis Khan, the trade link with the Orient; Samarkand from £162.50.

As the worlds of the travel brochures unfold their wonders, the story element becomes more and more pronounced, so that one would not be the least surprised by an offer to visit Zenda where a brave Englishman once stood in for the king whose exact double he happened to be. Anthony Hope's Zenda was as influential as Russia or the United States in Travel Service's America.

Travelling has become a matter of getting into the story, and already the form possesses its basic lines and themes: escape, sun, gold, paradise,

John Wilson

FASHION GUARDIAN

The light fantastic

by Peter Fiddick pictures by Frank Martin



MOULDERING GENTLY on my book-shelf is an interesting little historic document, circa 1964, entitled "ABC of Men's Fashion," its author, Mr Hardy Amies. I offer you from it this quotation for the season: "Unless your circulation is exceptionally good you will probably not enjoy wearing a light-weight suit in this country very often, even though it is very pleasant to wear a suit that you can hardly feel is on you."

ABOVE: canvas jacket, natural colour only, zipped front, self belt tied with leather thongs, pockets to match, £4.95; heavy cotton mixture striped trousers from £2, both at C & A, all branches. Beige polo neck jumper £2.50 at Take 6.

RIGHT: cotton safari shirt-style jacket in cream or dark beige £32.50. Silk printed scarf £6.50; both at Aquascutum, Regent Street. Velour hat £9.90 at Herbert Johnson.

TOP LEFT: brushed denim Confederate style suit in aubergine brown, green or denim blue, £14.75 at Take 6, all branches. Striped silk shirt and matching tie £16 and hat £8, all from Mr Fish, 17 Clifford Street, W.1.

MIDDLE LEFT: vest jumper £4 at Harrods Way In; navy/white cotton shirt by Daniel Brook approx £5.25 at Wood Green Tailors, High Road, N.22. Canvas trousers by Sabre, £5.50 at Harrods Way In.

BOTTOM LEFT: black canvas jacket, zipped breast pockets and zipped at sleeve. Other colours, £14.50 at Stirling Cooper, 26 Wigmore Street, W.1. Check cotton/jersey T-shirt (long sleeves) by the South Sea Bubble Ltd., approx £2 at Selfridges. Needlecord trousers by Lee Cooper, approx £3.75.

BELOW: by Geoff Magee for Hide Grade, canvas denim blue suit, high waisted jacket, suede edging round jacket, on pocket flaps, back yoke and back centre seam. Other colours, approx £23.50 at Take 6; Birdcage, Nottingham. Blue/white striped polyester/cotton shirt and matching tie, by Tern, £4.75 at Bourne & Hollingsworth.



THE SALES: WHERE AND WHEN

On Now: Aquascutum (women's); Bata Int., Oxford and Bond Street; British Home Stores (holiday bargains); Burberry (women's); C & A; Dickens & Jones, Richmond; Derry & Toms; Etam; Fifth Avenue, Oxford Street and Brompton Road; Heals; Just Jane; Marshall & Snelgrove, Oxford Street; Peter Robinson; Pontings; Rayne, Regent Street; Selfridges.

Tomorrow: Burberry (men's); Debenhams & Freebody (preview for

A/c customers only until July 2); D. H. Evans; Dickens & Jones, Regent Street; Ravel; Richard Shops; Swan & Edgar; Wallis Shops; main Oxford Street branches of Saxe, Lilley & Skinner, Dolcis, Manfield, Freeman Hardy Willis.

July 1: Bentalls, all branches; Liberty; Lillywhites, Piccadilly; Mary Lee.

July 3: Dolcis, Piccadilly; Rayne, Old Bond Street and Guildford; Simpson, Piccadilly; Shattocks Ltd, Surbiton.

July 5: Saint Laurent Rive Gauche, New Bond Street; National Fur Co.; Bata Shoes; Debenhams & Freebody; Feathers, Kensington; Harvey Nichols (preview only); Laura Ashley.

July 7: Bourne & Hollingsworth; Army & Navy Stores; the Scotch House, Knightsbridge.

July 8: Fenwick, New Bond Street; Harvey Nichols; Mondaine & Pinet Shoes; Polly Peck, New Bond Street.

July 10: Dolcis; Freeman Hardy Willis, Lilley & Skinner, Saxe, Manfield (Knightsbridge branches);

Harrods and Harrods Way In. **July 14:** Peter Jones; Russell & Bromley.

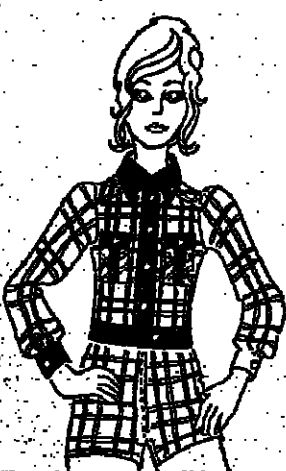
July 15: British Home Stores; John Lewis.

July 16: Magli Shoes. **July 22:** Bally London Shoe Co. **August 2:** True-Form Shoes.

REGIONAL SHOPS

On Now: Griffin & Spalding, Nottingham; Binns, Sunderland; Lewis's, Manchester; Lillywhites, Edinburgh.

July 6: Rackhams, Birmingham; Kendal Milne, Manchester.



New Coatsdress

Crisp cut, beautifully tailored, and boldly buttoned in silver—this coatsdress is styled with trim tab front and sharp A-line skirt. The look is clean, fresh and cool, in turquoise, pink, black, white or navy. Sizes 10-16.



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Yahya's threadbare package

Yahya Khan's nightmarish dreamworld shows no signs of crumbling. It is a "matter of satisfaction" to this "simple soldier" (in his latest broadcast) that in the difficult situation his country has faced recently "the reaction and response from an overwhelming number of countries has been of sympathy and understanding of the problems we are facing and trying to resolve." If Yahya believes that, if Yahya can brush aside the nausea of all Western reaction, then he may truly believe anything: even the field reports of his generals, in Bengal. His faith in what his aides tell him is touching, but tragically pathetic. He has no real plans now. The proposals he unveiled yesterday for a return to democratic government are a pathetic sham. If the aid givers of the world relent in their shocked disdain towards Pakistan it will not be because of an "expert panel" conjuring up slick formulae for subjugating Dacca once again.

Yahya's present strategy is based more on boredom than anything else. Fiddle away for a while, make a show of liberal sorrow and gruff sentiment, and hope that a harassed "international opinion" will yawn and pass on to other problems. So we have the experts and their constitution for "four months or so." Then we have a National Assembly stripped of the Awami League (which has a total majority in it) and all top leadership: incarcerated, shot or exiled. Vague phrases blur even the powers of this castrated body, but significantly the President no longer talks bluffly of his longing to get back to barracks. Martial law continues indefinitely. If Mr Bhutto wishes to rule in the West he must snuggle up to the military again. If anyone wishes to lead Eastern reconstruction he must stand in the shadow of Tikka Khan, a stooge in peril of assassination every time he shows his face. Yahya, in fact, can offer only the gauze of legality or autonomy to Bengal. He will be hard put to make it work for six months, never mind six years. As independent reports now coming from inside East Pakistan make clear there is resistance and terrorism and galloping poverty: there is Bengali determination not to forget, not to jettison aspirations. The refugees will not come

back en masse to face Tikka's tender mercies. Politicians of character will steer away from collaboration. Those educated Bengalis who remain in the East will lie low.

And nowhere, in all the intellectual wasteland of Yahya's master plan, is the central question asked. Does Pakistan exist any longer? Does unity matter any longer? What precisely have the Punjabi legions achieved? In Islamabad's book the regime snipped a budding plot between Sheikh Mujib and Mrs Gandhi—a plot to wreck the pure State of Jinnah and deliver half of it into the evil hands of New Delhi. That, seriously, is what Yahya claims—the same Yahya who allowed Mujib to win an unrigged election, to bargain long and hard over a constitution: the same Mujib who waited quietly at his home for the army to take him away, who—far from leading a premeditated coup—was patently stunned when the generals attacked.

Defending the Sheikh and his scattered henchmen may, at this juncture, seem a redundant exercise. Too much blood, too many refugees have flowed since Mujib disappeared for Pakistan to be magically put back together again. Yet his reputation remains unshuffled and important. He won an election. He did not, and has never publicly, declared UDI. The excesses of his Bengali followers were precipitated by army action—not the reverse. He remains, just possibly, the one man who can persuade the five million who fled to return; and—equally vital—those Bengalis who remained not to wallow in communal strife. Mujib, in short, is Pakistan's last chance of a little peace. Perhaps Yahya's advisers, examining this new threadbare package, begin to realise it. Perhaps the rich of Karachi and Lahore, groaning under the latest straitened national budget, begin to lose faith in their ludicrously naïve leadership. But the time is late and the reality is nowhere yet to be found. Yesterday's pronouncements should strengthen the Aid for Pakistan consortium and the World Bank in their resolve not to bend to blandishments or evasive promises. The stronger that resolve the weaker the Rawalpindi regime appears.

Hybrid structure for steel

When it comes to denationalising steel, the Government's doctrinal bark has turned out (so far) to be worse than its administrative bite. There is to be a certain amount of hiving-off "at a fair price" of activities which the British Steel Corporation says it does not mind losing. In the boundary area between the BSC and the private sector of the industry new joint companies will be formed to make billets and wire. But the Corporation will not be dismembered. It will not be sold off to its former owners either for a pittance or for any larger sum. Mr Davies is leaving most of the nationalised part of the steel industry alone. He is only tidying the margins and trying to make them more efficient with the help of private capital. He and Lord Melchett have agreed on a sort of industrial Butskellism.

The outcome could be good for the Corporation. The Government has approved its public-money investment programme for the current year in full. The formation of joint companies will—or should—attract private capital as well to help the Corporation's marginal activities. The result could resemble the arrangements between British European Airways and the main domestic independent airlines in which BEA has acquired substantial shareholdings. These arrangements appear to work well and profitably. BEA, with larger resources, can help the independents to keep costs down. For the same reason a partnership between the BSC and private capital could be more profitable than a completely private firm operating on its own. The only difference between the two arrangements is that BEA invested, shrewdly, in an existing private venture whereas Mr Davies expects private interests to invest,

shrewdly, in an existing nationalised venture. But the result could be the same. And Lord Melchett expects it to be good.

The doctrinaire nationalists and the doctrinaire denationalisers will no doubt find fault with all this. As Mr Davies knows, it is seldom possible to please one fanatic. It is never possible to please two of the opposite persuasions. What is encouraging about his statement yesterday is that it is quite different from the Government's instant dismemberment of part of BOAC a year ago. In those days the Government dismembered first and consulted afterwards. This time Mr Davies has accomplished a hiving-off by consent. This is a different and more sensible operation and much more likely to produce good results.

This does not mean, however, that British Steel Corporation's life has become rosy overnight. BSC still is not free to operate as if it were a totally commercial undertaking. Whitehall, even the Cabinet must approve changes in steel prices. Although this restraint will be removed if Britain joins Europe its effects can still be harmful in the meantime. The Corporation has lost a lot of money this summer because the Government refused to allow it to raise prices enough at a time when there was money to be made. The Corporation must also give preference to British steel users. It cannot take advantage of higher prices on the Continent if this means that its customers at home go short. More important still in the long run is that BSC still has not been told whether it can build the very large Japanese-scale steelworks that would be necessary if Britain is to produce crude steel competitively in the 1980s. Mr Davies should be starting to think hard about that question now.

Pretoria's petty revenge

Father Cosmas Desmond, who was yesterday put under house arrest in Johannesburg, has probably done more than any other man to document and publicise the inhuman "resettlement" policy of the South African regime. As a priest he had access to the dustbins and deserts to which the Government has begun to deport over four million Africans simply because they are classified as "unproductive labour units." Of all the things that the South African Government has done, apart from the moment of racial hysteria and fury that was Sharpeville, nothing has been more violent than "resettlement." Nothing also has been less well-publicised. Most white South Africans and certainly few tourists see the places where the deportees go. Until recently they were hardly known of, but this is no longer so.

Thanks to Father Desmond, white South Africans will not be able to say one day, as the Germans said before them, "We did not know

this was going on." Last year Father Desmond wrote a book on these miserable settlements which, was published in a limited edition by a Christian organisation in South Africa. But a lengthy article in the Guardian gave it international publicity. There followed a controversial documentary by Granada Television, and a contract from Penguin to bring the book out in England later this summer. Father Desmond has lectured all over South Africa. Some months ago he had his passport taken away. Now comes the next step by a regime which is afraid to see the worst aspects of its system given the glare of international publicity. The myth that the benefits of an expanding economy in South Africa help Africans too is one of Pretoria's cherished propaganda lines. "Resettlement" has shown that to be a lie, as women, children, and the old who can no longer provide cheap labour are dumped back in far-off reserves to rot and die.

A COUNTRY DIARY

NORTH JUTLAND: The lawn is covered with the seed-cases of wrych-elm and is scarcely ever free from birds—house and tree sparrows, greenfinches, linnets and chaffinches—eagerly extracting and eating the single seeds. The two sparrows are indefatigable at feeding them to youngsters as large as themselves. A blackbird, after a long struggle, extracted an enormous worm, only to be disappointed of its prey by a marauding black-headed gull. Incidentally, it is an unusual experience for a Cheshire naturalist to watch a crested tit, icterine warbler and lesser whitethroat whilst seated on a verandah with a pre-lunch drink. On the little reedy lake amongst the fields a pair of red-necked grebes are accompanied by a single youngster. They are gorgeous birds, very different from the drab-plumaged creatures which occasionally visit our Cheshire meres during the winter. Although they lack the elaborate head-decorations of the familiar great crested grebe, their jet-black crowns, contrasting with white chins and cheeks, and their reddish throats, looking bright orange in the sunshine, make them most striking birds. In the long grass beside the churchyard silky purple pasque-flowers with long golden stamens are in bloom or in queer clematis-like seed and, beside the track through the woods, are the white stars of trientale, bright yellow hairy greenweed, and the pink bells of comberby.

L. P. SAMUELS

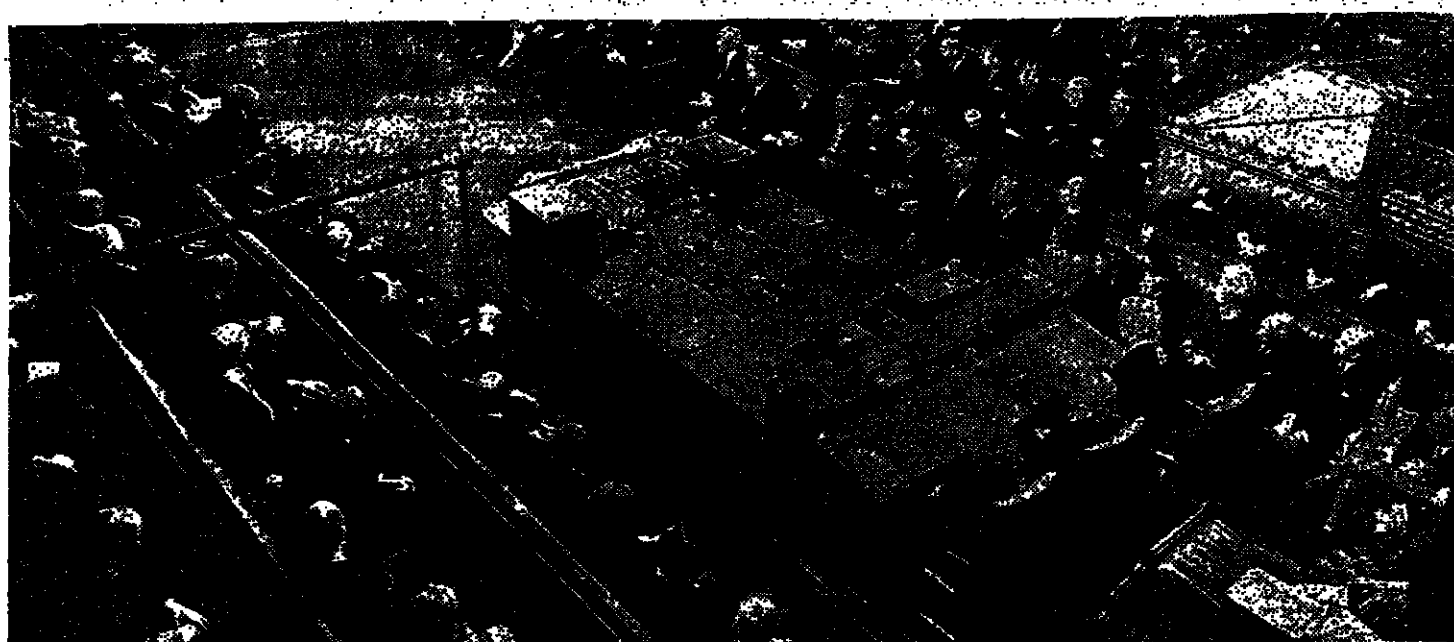
God bless the local council

They knocked down our dirty old slums and moved us into these brand new flats. Seven thousand of us in 28 blocks. They don't look very pretty but they're quite nice inside, even if they are all the same. The kids have settled in quite nicely, but I think they miss our old bit of garden to play in. They miss the dog, too, of course. We wanted a proper house really, but only having two kids the council said it was out of the question. Still, at least we've got a proper toilet and bathroom and that. But the people are different somehow, even the ones who used to live down our street. I don't know who designs these places, but I wish they'd give us a bit more choice.

The tenants of Doddington Road Estate, Battersea do all the talking in Thames Television's *Where The Houses Used To Be* 10.30 pm tonight on ITV.

THAMES

Thames Television 305 Epsom Road London NW11 3BS



Free men—or lobby-fodder?

The people or the party

"I do not see how I could vote for entry if it was clear that the mass of the electorate were still against it" — JOCK BRUCE-GARDYNE, MP, a Conservative pro-Marketeer, on the choice before Parliament and the individual member

Mr Longden's request, and the message on the Government side seems to be that no decision has been taken yet.

However I have no doubt that the Government will issue a whip—and that it will be absolutely right to do so. For there are two technical, parliamentary, objections to a free vote which the commentators have missed. The first is that a free vote, which does not involve a "summons to attend," invariably results in substantial absenteeism. It would be surprising if there were not a hundred absentees. That would be a hundred too many. The second objection is more fundamental: a free vote means that Government spokesmen could only express a personal preference. The Government would be abdicating its responsibility to give the lead. And this it could not do.

So we shall be invited to support the Government's recommendation of accession to the Treaty of Rome; and as things stand at present it must be assumed that the Labour Party will be similarly invited to reject it. At this point the mood of public opinion enters into the calculation. The hope and belief of all of us who support British participation in an enlarged European Community has always been that once the terms are known, and once Ministers are free to campaign for public support, the mood of the electorate will swing round in favour.

Provided that happens between now and October the Government will have nothing to worry about. Labour pro-marketters could justify their defiance of party orders by reference to the attitude of the electorate; and the Tory rebels would be reduced to an insignificant rump of dedicated antagonists.

The chances of such a public conversion must be greatly enhanced by the outcome of the negotiations in Brussels. Provided adequate safeguards are obtained for the inshore fishers the anti-marketters will be hard put to it to make much of the terms.

Still, public opinion is morose. After two years of unprecedented inflation anything which implies even higher prices—as entry into the Common Market is bound to do—encounters considerable consumer resistance. Government managers must reckon with the possibility that the electorate remains unmoved.

What happens then? At the last election the Prime Minister said that "no British Government could possibly take this country into the Common Market against the wish of the British people." This has always seemed to me a clear statement of fact: tragic though I believe a rejection of this great opportunity would be, I do not see how I could vote for entry if it was clear that the mass of the electorate were still against it.

Presumably, in these circumstances, the Government could decide to call the whole plan off without ever submitting it to Parliament. But this, too—or so it seems to me—would involve an abdication of responsibility. I believe that the right course (and this applies whatever the state of public opinion) would be for the Government to say to Parliament: "We recommend entry as being in the best interests of the nation. But we shall accept whatever Parliament decides."

I know it will be said this would amount to an invitation to Tory waverers to break ranks, and that if Parliament then rejected the terms of entry the Government would be placed in an impossible position. I would not accept the second proposition: the situation today is vastly different from that which faced Mr Macmillan in January 1963. We do not now have a Prime Minister and Government who have visibly run out of steam, or who have resorted to Europe because they cannot think of anything else to do.

Above all, however, I believe that if the Government gives Parliament the impression that it is prepared to stand or fall by the outcome of the vote it could get the worst of both worlds. Potential Tory rebels would not find the threat of an immediate dissolution credible. But the ability of the Labour anti-marketters to tell their pro-European colleagues that by voting with the Tories they would be preventing a change of Government would place the pro-Europeans in an intolerable position.

Already this argument is being heard at Westminster. If it can be pressed home, many of the ablest men in the Labour Party—the Jenkinses and the Thomsons—would be forced to choose between their principles and their careers. That could not be in anybody's interest.

Mr Heath has always insisted that on Europe it is for Parliament to decide. It follows that the Government should accept that decision whichever way it may go.

Walking out

Sir,—In recent weeks, sponsored road walks have been criticised for the possible danger to walkers from road traffic; and more recently sponsored walks held over open country have caused serious concern to rescue services during bad weather. Nevertheless many sponsored walks and other events held are not dangerous to those taking part. The money raised this way is of great value to the charities, though most sponsored events achieve little in themselves, except as a social occasion. Why do we not put the effort into achieving something of value? As an example, during the 18 Plus charities week last October 25 members of Derby 18 Plus group spent a weekend decorating and gardening in the homes of the elderly in the town and were sponsored for each hour worked. Everyone taking part felt they were doing something worthwhile and this was shown by the enthusiasm with which they tackled the jobs. Doubtless there are many other ways by which sponsored events can provide a useful service as well as raise money and I hope such events will be held more often in the future. Certainly Derby 18 Plus group members hope to take part in a sponsored voluntary working weekend again this year.—Yours faithfully,

Graham Naily,
Midland Area Public Relations Officer,
National Federation of Eighteen Plus Groups,
101A Normanton Road,
Derby,
DE1 2GG.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Sesame Street's working capital

Sir,—Miss Linda Christmas writes an excellent report on "Sesame Street" which never-the-less produced a flood of incoherent responses (June 17). What is wrong with such people? Why this attitude among those whose outlook ought to be professional, seeing that "Sesame Street," and for that matter the George Peabody Language Instruction Unit, are the only two efforts so far made to teach language specially to those pre-school children who lack language skills so badly that language cannot be used to teach them language—or anything?

Miss Christmas was quite right to applaud the well-conceived and brilliantly carried out intentions of Joan Cooney, of The Children's Television Workshop. There are no competing TV programmes—for the simple reason that until now the need has not been recognised. Thus all the existing programmes have been directed towards improving the language skills of those who already have such skills. The "Sesame Street" programme is different in that even if it does further develop the language skill of those who have the necessary working-capital of language, it at least raises—as tests have incontrovertibly shown—the language skills of those unfortunates for whom it

was specially designed—those whose opportunities to learn their mother tongue have been so lacking that they are without even the minimum working-capital of concepts, the "tickets" or "labels" on a vocabulary with which to understand, or cogitate, in language. Why is there this passion? Why this highly emotional and non-professional attitude?

I have shown "Sesame Street" to a number of audiences at Colleges of Education. The student body, to a man (and girl), is behind Joan Cooney in her perceptive innovation, but among usually the elder members of the staff are very evident those few who are noisy in "arrogantly repudiating any deviation from the true doctrine."

More power to the Guardian and to Miss Christmas! Let parents and the literate public support this programme (pate Dr Kellner Pringle) least 21.4 per cent of seven-year-old children (who are three and four years more mature than those for whom "Sesame Street" is designed) who in her words, are no better than either of "markedly poor oral ability" or "tend to use" only "simple word groupings." (Sir) James Pittman,
154 Southampton Row,
London WC1.

Fee as the air

Sir,—The suggestion made by Mr A. F. Crouch (Guardian, June 25) for making a charge for the use of the grass in public parks, while excellent in spirit, is I fear impracticable. His belief that "Supervision need cost little" shows him to have small experience of the problems of controlling children in unconfined spaces.

One does not wish to read in the most vulgar newspapers sensational accounts of park keepers being assaulted by exasperated nursemaids.

There is, however, a much easier and more all-embracing scheme for the raising of money from a widespread public activity, which must surely soon be initiated by this Government or its successor and that is, quite simply, a tax on the breathing of air. No one could complain of the unfairness of such a tax, as it would fall on everyone.

We must, sir, face the fact that in this twentieth century it is absurd to consider air as a commodity free for all to use as land and water were in pre-historic times.

The amount of air in the atmosphere, though large, is limited and it is increasingly needed as a repository for sulphur fumes, the exhaust gases of aircraft etc. Which are essential to a high standard of living; the time has gone by when millions of human beings can be allowed to draw it in and out of their lungs all day for nothing.

William L. Fryer,
Whitlands,
Long Sutton,
Nr Basingstoke,
Hampshire.

Michelle Winters's discontent and the official Hungarian line

Sir,—We have received the following statement from the authorities concerned in Budapest about the case of Miss Winters, which was referred to in the Guardian of June 11.

"At the time of her intended departure, the residence permit issued to Miss Michelle Winters by the Hungarian Embassy in London expired, and she had neither applied for an extension of an exit visa. She was sent back from the frontier station of Hegyeshalom to Budapest to obtain an exit visa.

"The Aliens Department of the Ministry of Home Affairs issued the necessary documents without delay and Miss Winters left Budapest by plane for London from Ferihegy Airport on

June 11, at 15.30 hours. The Hungarian authorities concerned treated Miss Winters with courtesy throughout."

Perhaps you would like to publish this statement to set the record straight.—Yours sincerely,

Ursula McLean
(Press Section),
Hungarian Embassy,
16 Lowndes Close,
London, SW 1.

[Miss Winters maintains that the story printed was correct. She says: "My residence permit was valid until July 31. The Hungarian authorities have it now, but I have several wit-

nesses in England who saw it was dated until July 31."

About the exit paper: "Before you go to Hungary you are given three pink exit papers by the Hungarian Embassy in London. One goes to the border guards as you enter, the other to the authorities in Hungary, and the third you keep. In January when they gave me a residence permit after I had been there since September, they took from me my pink exit paper and gave me a grey card with my picture on it, and almost the same information. I imagined they would destroy the pink paper and that the grey card was replacing it. I was not told I would have to get the pink paper back before I left the country. I imagined

that would be destroyed."

On courtesy: "When I finally went to the Aliens Department, with a member of the British Embassy staff, the man there was really quite rude to me. He said Miss Winters should have known about the exit papers. The Embassy official asked how could I know if there were no pamphlets or instructions about exit papers. The man in the department claimed every student knew about it, so why didn't I. The border guards did not treat me in the best of ways. They were not very sympathetic. This trouble over exit papers was an absolute waste of money and time. (I was delayed from June 8 to June 11.)"

RICHARD BOURNE on a breakthrough in the Surrey art school affair

Guildford get-out



Guildford teachers and their supporters arriving for yesterday's meeting

BEHIND a tight security screen worthy of the diplomatic exchanges between London and Salisbury it was announced yesterday that a "basis was reached" for a settlement of the three-year-old dispute at the Guildford School of Art. Three of the seven full-time teachers who lost their jobs after the 1968 sit-in may well return to what is now the West Surrey College of Art and Design. The remaining four will return to the Surrey payroll in other capacities. How have "The Sicilian Bandits"—as Vic Feather dubbed the hard-liners on Surrey County Council last month—got in sight of an agreement with the "Hailu" militants, to which a former Surrey official once compared the embattled seven?

Reasons are mixed: the sheer dogged persistence of the seven, backed by the increasing impatience of the Association of Teachers in Technical Institutions; unorthodox tactics, such as the militant Surrey Association of the National Union of

Teachers that they could not keep out of the dispute much longer; and perhaps a genuine desire by Surrey—which has stood fast by its comprehensive programme after an initial Thatcherite wobble, and has launched an exemplary process of consultation. The agreement is not signed and sealed but the will is there on both sides and on July 8, when Surrey's education committee meets and the 10th, when the ATTI council gathers, the details should at last be ratified. It is hoped then to announce that Peter Hall, Sylvia Dingwall and Ian Walters will return to the college, that Michael Steadman will go to Ewell Technical College, that John Kishan may become a tutor librarian at the Epsom Art School, and that Barry Norman may become head of an art and craft department at a Surrey secondary school.

The origin of this unprecedented dispute goes back to 1968, a hot summer for art schools when a student sit-in led to a staff meeting on June 12 at which Mr Tom

Arnold, principal at Guildford, asked the staff prepared to give him unqualified support to leave the room. A carpenter, it is now known, had been asked to note the names of those who stayed behind, and two days previously the governors had authorised Mr Arnold to suspend those who failed to back him.

But a large number of staff, possibly more than half, stayed in their seats and the full meeting passed overwhelmingly a motion suggesting that a staff/student committee should be set up with wide powers. Two days later another governors' meeting, attended by a senior Surrey policeman, rejected the idea of such a committee and a tough line was pursued. By autumn 1968 some 33 part-timers had lost their jobs, as well as the seven.

Since then every large educational union has supported the call for a public inquiry and Mr Fred Willey's Select Committee found a prima facie case for one. Henry Moore sent a cheque for £10,

weighty artists and intellectuals signed appeals in the Guardian and the Times. Their visits to ATTI headquarters, it is likely to make any authority much more in future. And in national terms the Guildford affair can claim an influence in far-reaching changes: the Coldstream-Summers report on art education on which the Department has still to pronounce, the 1970 circular on the government of colleges and even the national inquiries of the Willey Committee.

The issues at stake have been several: the role of students in art education, the relevance of military type discipline to an educational institution, and the quality of governance by a local authority and lay governors in further education. But as the weary years have gone by—without unemployment benefit and two of the unemployed taking labouring jobs—it has become more like an industrial dispute.

So what will the Guildford martyrs have achieved? Nothing much for part time teachers—who lost their jobs first and merely got a term's salary in exchange. But, as Michael Steadman

said yesterday in the Bloomsbury cafe where the seven regularly foregather before their visits to ATTI headquarters, it is likely to make any authority much more in future. And in national terms the Guildford affair can claim an influence in far-reaching changes: the Coldstream-Summers report on art education on which the Department has still to pronounce, the 1970 circular on the government of colleges and even the national inquiries of the Willey Committee.

Surrey, like any big authority, remains enormously powerful. There will never be a full inquiry into the Guildford affair. But even big authorities must be careful taking labouring jobs—it has become more like an industrial dispute. So what will the Guildford martyrs have achieved? Nothing much for part time teachers—who lost their jobs first and merely got a term's salary in exchange. But, as Michael Steadman

Mad dogs

HAROLD JACKSON on the Briton's image abroad

THE Six may want our technological wizardry, but there is growing evidence that the outer fringes of the Continent are not all that thrilled by our way of life. The Briton abroad is increasingly assuming the status of a major pollutant.

Over the weekend two young ladies from the Home Counties, found themselves sweating it out in the detention room in Malaga police headquarters, having been picked up by prim officialdom in Torremolinos for allegedly doing as they do at home. They protested strongly that they were doing no more than visiting the sights, but they had unfortunately chosen to see the nightlife just after

the municipality had closed down one nightclub and fined its owners £1,500 for allowing immoral activities on the premises. In Greece they have invoked the Almighty in the struggle to beat back the alien hordes. The Orthodox Church has just published a list of 24 prayers to be recited by monks and nuns day and night which includes the following: "Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on the cities, the islands, and the villages of our Orthodox fatherland, as well as the holy monasteries, which are scourged by the worldly touristic wave. Grace us with the solution of this dramatic problem and protect our

brethren who are sorely tried by the modernistic spirit of these contemporary Western invaders."

The Gatwick-eye view is of middle-aged couples firing on Entervioform and desperately hoping that there is fish and chips at the other end, but some miraculous alchemy of air travel transforms them in mid-flight into a band of raving hippies landing in a syringe stuffed and sex-mad to dissipate a thousand years of European culture in one cut-price fortnight.

Any tourist tends to get the impression that if he just sent the money by registered letter he would save both himself and his hosts a great deal of time and energy and this is reinforced by the latest inci-

dents. The Spaniards get £700 millions a year out of their visitors, and the Greeks £60 millions, and both are confidently looking for an increase. But they are not talking of a cultural transition period in return for all this economic benefit. So far as Britain is concerned what the 2,618,068 Britons who went to Spain last year are buying is the whole bag of long dresses, piety, prudery, and an immaculate driving licence. What the tourists thought they were buying was a quick tan and cheap booze. The Guardia Civil tends to provide the catalyst that transforms the fantasy into a real reality. Their training has not so far included reconciling God and Mammon.

consider it, by the Vatican in March this year.

Then, 226 priests sent a petition to the Pope to reverse his decision. Gonzal went to Rome to present the reformers' case, and persuaded Pope Paul to set up a new committee, headed by Archbishop Lemeux, with three Maltese representatives, to reconsider the report. The committee is currently making inquiries.

Writing the politicking behind the Vatican's chain of heart, some suspect hostility by Gonzal's deputy, Bishop Gerada, a former Vatican diplomat, was in part responsible, the remarkable thing seems to be that change is coming to one of the last strongholds of the Church—where heresies never happen and where priests don't marry.

Bishop Gerada, who disputes only the speed, not the direction of this movement, says change and criticism are possible because priests are essentially of the people. Many of them live with their families and are cared for by them. But most of all, they are not held in the sort of awe which sometimes distances parish priests in Ireland from their flock.

The comparison ends there because Malta is as brown as Ireland is green. But looking round the island, you realise that the Church is rich and powerful because the Maltese want it to be so, and partly because they have never been able to prevent it. Still the shrines with writhing Christs and doleful Madonnas have much more to do with devotion than superstition. But things are changing in holy places. There is a breeze in this gentle blessing.

JOHN CUNNINGHAM, Valetta, Monday, on the man behind the Church in Malta

For God and Gonzi

gested a retiring age for bishops, he offered to resign on three occasions, and, twice, in the tradition of Saint Peter, he was denied.

Gonzi, skull-capped and red-robed, sits in his palace in Valetta with an early photograph of the Queen behind him and a cat with the curiosity of an inquisitor. He explains the need for reform. For centuries the Church's income has been derived from bequests. It is estimated that there are now at least 1,000 of these, administered by 250 priests, most of them having no financial expertise. The total income is about £300,000. There are 900 priests in Malta, half of them in religious houses, to serve a population of 300,000. "We are not priest-ridden," says Gonzi. But the clergy are badly paid, and they average only £500 a year. Until lately, this was considerably less, and even now is still below a teacher's salary on the island. "What is £500 a year these days?" he says, with a questioning gesture. It is so little that it forces about 150 priests to take jobs as teachers.

After incomes have been adjusted, some of the remaining money will be used to provide medical facilities, homes for orphans and for

the poor. Already the Church has about 12 orphanages, and Gonzi set up a blood bank four years ago. There is a notable inadequacy in some social services provided by the State, which the Church can provide. The Archbishop, who was born on the island, is hastening, though late in his day, to remedy this.

A group of priests, however, feel that the Church is not hastening enough. For a start, they put the Church's income at about £500,000 more than McKinsey's estimate of it, and say that £50,000 is being added in bequests every year. One of these priests, Father Joseph Felice Pace, believes that the Church's commitment to social work, particularly in training community leaders, should be extended much further than recommended by McKinsey.

The report, in fact, suggests housing as the most suitable lay activity for the Church to engage in. Some priests point to the Church's poor record here: two years ago it set up the Malta Homes Society, but so far only about a dozen of the 400 proposed houses have been built. But the point at which these criticisms found their focus was the suspension of McKinsey, and of the first commission set up to con-

HOPES of a settlement or fears of a sellout on Rhodesia appear to be premature and exaggerated. Salisbury is the usually unreliable source of the excited speculation, and Whitehall disapprovingly puts it down to "heavy briefing."

The phrase itself suggests that cotton, in the sense of a coming together of Sir Alec Douglas-Home and Mr Ian Smith, is a by no means certain outcome.

But even if it is achieved, there is Mr Smith's penchant for coitus interruptus to contend with. His style in the past has been to give vague encouragements in order to bring about a summit, but then to prevaricate, and finally to withdraw.

The reports from Salisbury that Sir Alec and Mr Smith were to have met next week had Government spokesmen in London with one hand on the telephone and the other on their hearts yesterday. No meeting had ever been fixed, not even tentatively, and therefore, they declared with impeccable logic, it could not be true that a meeting had been postponed.

The latest position is said to be that Mr Smith has indicated a willingness to amend the 1969 Rhodesia Constitution but has not yet indicated whether he is talking about bringing it into conformity with the first and most important of the Five Principles, which is that there shall be "unimpeded progress to majority rule."

Smith appeal

PETER JENKINS

Sir Alec Douglas-Home has no intention of meeting with Mr Smith until he is convinced that the Rhodesian leader is "talking the same language," that is to say talking about an independence Constitution which embraces, and indeed entrenches, the principle of eventual majority rule.

But better than relying on guidance either from Salisbury or Whitehall is to analyse the actual limits within which either side can move. First, Rhodesia's 1969 Constitution and the Five Principles, start a million miles apart. The 1969 Constitution was described by Mr Smith as sounding "the death knell of majority rule."

In theory it allows for an eventual parity of representation between whites (275,000) and Africans (5 million) but in practice this would only be achieved when Africans, who pay 24 per cent of the income tax, contributed 50 per cent. It is a case of no representation without taxation.

The Rhodesians, not without some encouragement from the Tories when in opposition,

presumably entertain hopes that the Heath Government will stretch the Five Principles sufficiently to enable them to preserve white superiority indefinitely within a more respectable-looking constitutional framework. They may be correct in expecting Sir Alec to be more trusting of Rhodesian good intentions, less insistent upon water-tight guarantees and in general in less of a hurry to see the blacks take over.

Even then it is hard to see how the Five Principles can be stretched much further than they were on board the Fearless.

Nevertheless, allowing Sir Alec a certain insouciance in matters concerning the New World, he is a man of old-fashioned honour, (who knows his Smith as not exactly the sort of chap he would want to see at the Hirsal for the weekend) and he has played the Rhodesian question pretty straight over the years. The Rhodesians are almost certainly making a mistake if they expect Sir Alec to meet them on their sort of terms.

Contrary to what Salisbury may think, Rhodesia has

become a marginal issue in British politics, even under a Conservative Government. No doubt Sir Alec would like to see it settled (he has said privately on several occasions recently that a settlement is the only means of bringing sanctions to an end). But as Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary, he is not going to settle it to the satisfaction of 270,000 white Rhodesians at the expense of breaking up the Commonwealth, quarrelling with the United States, and humiliating his country in the eyes of the world.

The Conservatives pledged themselves at the election to try again with Mr Smith, and the Government is trying. It would like to remove the sanctions (which it doesn't believe do any good) but will only remove them when there is a settlement.

But the last thing it desires is another unholy row overlapping with the Common Market timetable. Sir Alec has enough authority within his party to declare that an honourable settlement is not to be had with Mr Ian Smith, and it will be surprising if that is not the eventual result.

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MISCELLANY

Jungle book

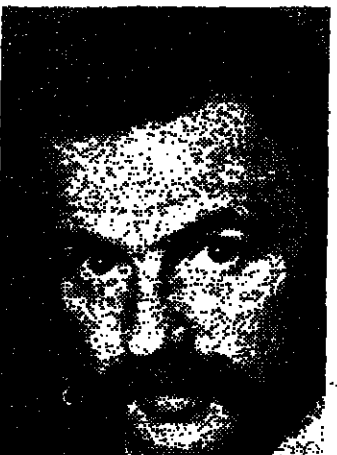
THE RISON writings of Regis Debray, the French Marxist writer who went to the Bolivian jungle in search of the Guevara, are to be published in full by Penguin. Only about a third of Debray's rison work has been published, in a French magazine.

Penguin has also landed a further major prize: Debray has agreed to write a comprehensive review of Latin American politics, for first publication in English in paperback. Latin America with a mellow perspective.

Debray was charged with guerrilla activities and sentenced in 1967 to 30 years' imprisonment. He was released in January of this year, and returned to Paris by way of Chile and Cuba. He is still fully recovered from his rison experience—his lasting memory, he tells his friends, of the rats which used to come and nibble his ears at night.

Direct action

JOHN BLACKMORE, co-director of the Library Theatre in Manchester, is launching a trade union for theatre directors. It's not, he says, just that directors feel their craft differential is being eroded by Equity's drive for a living wage for actors—though some of them are worried about where the money's going to come from. But apart from the pay, Blackmore and others think directors need more protection over conditions of work and contracts. Guest directors, used increasingly in the new provincial rep and theatre clubs, are particularly vulnerable. Their contracts, Blackmore says, often provide fee, but no living expenses



DEBRAY: nibbled

and no payment for going back to keep an eye on the production. One man recently lost £100 on a deal of that kind.

Directors are worried, too, about "quality control." Equity has shut the door on amateur actors, but anyone can be hired to direct, regardless of experience. Blackmore has called a meeting in Manchester this Friday. Equity is showing interest. If it will have the directors as a separate branch, well and good. If not, they will float their own show.

Rich vein

IF YOU prick them, do they not bleed? The Labour campaign for an early byelection in Macclesfield, where they have every hope of overturning a 10,000 Tory majority, has drawn its first trickle.

The former Sir Arthur Harvey, whose elevation to the Lords has created the vacancy, has thrown back the challenge. "Didn't Labour delay byelections in Newcastle-under-Lyme and Swindon? And then there was

Kensington South, which was disfranchised for six months. Well, yes, Milford. But Kensington South happens to be the safest Tory seat outside Northern Ireland, and it is the party in possession that moves the write for a byelection. If you prick them, do they not bleed—blue blood?

● A DICTIONARY of acronyms has recently been published in India. Under the rubric "Kiss" it offers: "Koordinasi, integrasi, sinkronisasi dan stabilisasi." Coupled with the English alternative: "Keep it short and simple."

Cover story

EVEN BEFORE the turmoil over the Vietnam papers, the American Secretary of Defense had decided that Pentagon filing cabinets were getting over-jammed with classified documents. A two-day, top-level meeting pondered what could safely be declassified and how a little more rhyme and reason could be brought into what needed to be protected.

Decisions were taken and an appropriate memo was drafted. Nevertheless, a couple of weeks on, there was no noticeable change. The filing cabinets were as full as ever. An inquiry was ordered: Why had instructions not been followed? The memo, the answer came, had been marked "Top secret." Circulation was so restricted that it had never reached the filing cabinets.

Thus spake

A NEW parliamentary weapon, from the wise Mr Speaker, Lloyd? The back benches were groaning away at question time yesterday, as Eddie Griffiths (Labour, Sheffield, Steel) chuntered on and

on at John Davies. In spite of a request from the throne to save it for the steel debate tomorrow.

Eventually the witty Mr Speaker Lloyd can bear it no longer: "The honourable member is only prejudicing his chances for Wednesday." Consternation on the back benches. No one can remember such an open threat. If you want to be boring, first learn to be brief.

In the wings

DO YOU sincerely want to be an angel? Charles Ross, the London manager who backed "Ten Years Hard," is trying to raise capital for two new shows from punters and philanthropists. His target is about a fifth of the £37,000 needed, in units of £25.

The plays he's selling bits in are John Spurling's musical "Romance," which opens at Leeds Playhouse on July 26 with Bill Simpson; and "The Douglas Cause," by William Douglas Home.

If the scheme works, Ross will publish the returns, and talks of a revolving theatrical development fund. But backing a West End production is not so much an investment as a gamble. One national newspaper has already refused advertising.

● A PIQUANT thought to take parliamentary minds off the Common Market. Last week's half-day strike on Clydeside, with Wedgie Benn to the fore, would have been illegal if the Industrial Relations Bill had come into law. The Labour Party and TUC are busily organising similar stoppages in protest at high unemployment. By then Robert Carr's Act will be the statute book. Which Labour leaders will chance their marching boots?

HIGHLANDS AND ISLANDS

a 'Guardian' special report



Part of Loch Tubbair in Glen Dochart, Perthshire

JOHN KERR on the economic expansion of Britain's most underpopulated region

Six among one of Mackenzie's

IT WAS THE bard, Robert Burns—in a vein that anticipated Ogden Nash by about two centuries—who penned the lines

When death's dark stream I ferry o're
(A time that surely shall come)
In Heaven itself I'll ask
no more
Than just a Highland welcome."

It is still a pleasant sentiment, but nowadays the basic problem of the Highlands and Islands is that there are drastically fewer people around to extend a welcome and not nearly enough who want to take advantage of it. Since the turn of the century the population of the seven crofting counties that constitute the Highlands—north and west of a line from Inverness to the Mull of Kintyre—has dropped by more than 20 per cent. It now stands at about 275,000.

So an area that accounts for one fifth of the land surface of the United Kingdom accommodates only 0.5 per cent (half of 1 per cent) of the country's population.

The drift from the island communities of the Hebrides, Orkney, and Shetland has been even more pronounced than from the Highland area as a whole.

The dark suspicion lingers in some quarters that it has been the policy under successive Westminster Governments to continue in the clearances that led to mass emigration last century. But, perhaps, that is too Machiavellian a play even for the Treasury.

Imaginative

One strong counter-argument in this context is the existence of the Highlands and Islands Development Board—the only regional authority of its kind in the country with executive powers for development. To be sure the board has not fulfilled all the shining promise envisaged when it was set up almost six years ago by Mr William Ross, the Labour Secretary of State for Scotland. It has even sponsored some spectacular failures. But, under the imaginative influence of its first chairman, Sir Robert Griev, it has gone a long

way towards setting the scene for development. How far it can build on this foundation now depends on the will of the Conservative Administration and the campaigning qualities of its new chairman, Sir Andrew Gilmour.

The board was, for example, an active influence in the Government decision to site the British Aluminium smelter plant at Invergordon on the Cromarty Firth. The smelting plant came into production last month but one of the key arguments for setting it up at Invergordon—that it would attract other much-needed industry—has fallen flat on its face.

Instead, the farmlands overlooking the deep water anchorage of the Firth off the town have been subjected to a taste of that modern urban affliction, planning blight. The administrative merry-go-round of planning inquiries goes on, seeming never to produce industry but always more strained relations in the local community.

One of the latest applications for planning permission covers a site at Dalmore distillery "for the erection of an assembly depot for oil rig construction." Although the cry of oil has a hollow ring about it in this part of the world, as a result of past disappointments, there would seem to be a growing credibility about the rôle of Invergordon as a base of same sort for North Sea oil.

This raises the larger question of how far the Highlands and Scotland in general will benefit if the oil under the North Sea turns out to be a substantial strike. So far, the local interest seems

to be confined to a small share taken by the banks and financial institutions in foreign exploration groups. There is little real indication that these enterprises will necessarily produce jobs on the ground. Perhaps that would be a fruitful line of action for the Highland Board to pursue—Highland jobs from Scottish oil.

The other agency that is deeply involved in promoting Highland industry is the North of Scotland Hydro-Electric Board, for short called "the hydro." It is motivated in part by self-interest as it wants to sell electricity, but since its inception the hydro has always had a strong social conscience. The vital statistic, for what it is worth, is that since 1945 more than 270 new industrial enterprises accounting for 20,000 jobs have been created in the Highlands. The hydro board estimates that it has been directly responsible for attracting 50 of these firms and providing 6,000 jobs.

Skilled

It is also a considerable employer in its own right and currently has a labour force of 530 working on construction of the Foyers pumped storage generating scheme on the shore of Loch Ness. (The cartoonists will be turning soon to neon-lit monsters with sparks coming out of their ears.) The men at Foyers are part of what is now virtually a permanent pool of skilled labour working in the Highlands, moving from contract to contract. Many of the Foyers team have worked on building the Invergordon smelter and will probably go on to the hydro's next major project, the nuclear generator to be built at Stakeness on the Banffshire coast.

But, perhaps more than anything else in the past ten years it is tourism that has changed the face of the Highlands. Winter sports, particularly, and the commercial development that has followed the hairy-kneed enthusiasts have transformed the way of life in the Spey Valley. It may not all be change for the better but those who condemn it as desecration of the Highlands must have forgotten how run down the area was before the ski boom came. And, how else could one have organised the exquisite joy of hearing the parents of the Edinburgh establishment on a mountain-side at Easter bellowing hopefully after their departing children—"We'll pick you up at eleven at the Happy Haggis." The happily named chip shop in Aviemore is now an international rendezvous and the queue at night is as impressive a demonstration of democracy as U Thant could wish to find.

Unanimous

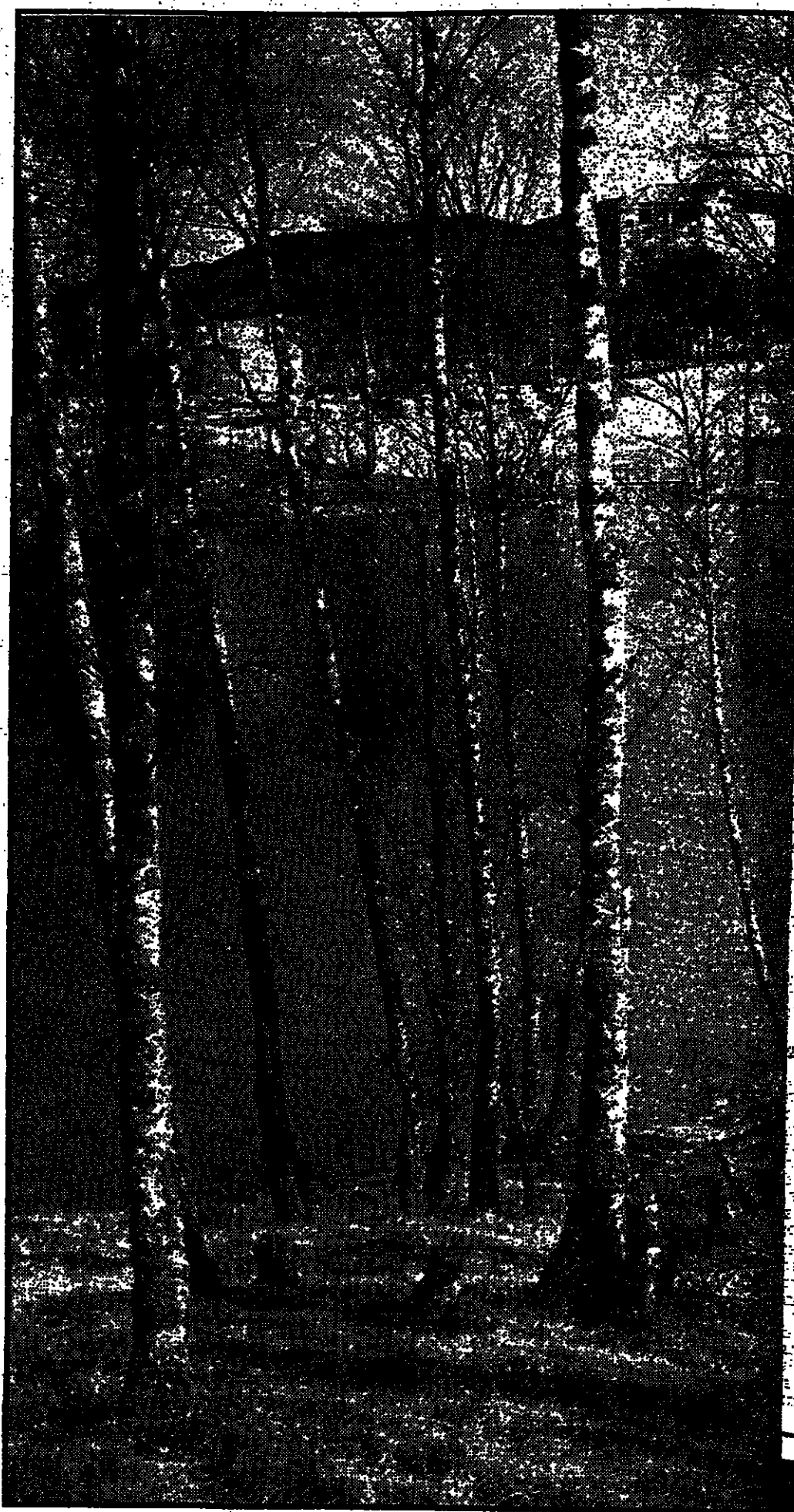
That other basic element of development—as essential to tourism as to industry—communication by road, is also coming on apace. When the Highland Board was formed its members were unanimous on the first priority if, by some higher dispensation, they could have waved a magic wand. Nothing would do more good, they said, than a dual carriageway along the A9 from the Forth Bridge to Inverness. Now, it seems almost suddenly, there is a sizeable stretch of just such road from the bridge more than half way to Perth.

Work is in progress on the long, exposed hump of Drumochter Pass, the difficult bends of the Pass of Killiecrankie and, farther north, the Scottish Office has authorised a route over the Beaulieu and Cromarty Firths to provide an arterial link between Invergordon and Inverness. This tremendous improvement in access is going to open up the Highlands to an extent undreamt of in the past and is bound

to attract investment and population.

It will help to stimulate the staple industries of fishing, forestry, and agriculture and should encourage innovation in some of the more modern fields of manufacture. It is understandable that in the transition phase there should be impatience, frustration, and disappointment. But a sprawling, sparsely populated region like the Highlands and Islands does not lend itself to instant solutions.

The temperament of the people and their prospects call to mind a story once told by Sir Robert Griev—a man with an acute ear for language and a gift for humorous narrative as well as creative planning. It was about a crofter who had lost some sheep. When a neighbour inquired after them later he replied, "Ach yes, I got them up the hill. There was two by herself, one together, and six among one of Mackenzie's." Perhaps, rather than by instant planning this is the way too that the Highlands will, in the natural course of events, attend to its development "moutons."



View of Aviemore village, Invernesshire, before development

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HIGHLANDS AND ISLANDS

TOPSY-LIKE, British tourism for the Highlands and Islands Development Board is therefore in an unusual position in being able to integrate tourism into an overall pattern of development of a huge and outstandingly beautiful area of the country. In theory this should ensure a respect for the environment that has been violated altogether too often elsewhere.

Such is patently the board's intention and it enthusiastically supports, either by direct grant or by promotional recommendation, any enterprise that will further this idea. It also regards tourism as providing one of the best methods of bringing employment into neglected areas and of producing a reasonably quick return on investment.

As an instance of support, it helped the National Trust finance the building of a small but stylish information centre and museum at Culloiden. Here the story of the "Forty Five" is told with stills and a 40-minute film. Other National Trust properties in the Highlands and Islands are promoted in a permanent exhibition.

It also gave a grant towards the building of David Haynes's Landmark Visitors Centre down on Speyside at Carrbridge. Like its near neighbour, Aviemore, this won the BTA's "Come to Britain Award" as a truly imaginative tourist attraction.

During two and a half years in the Highlands and Islands, David Haynes was impressed by exhibition centres there that traced an otherwise unidentifiable history of various areas. In Landmark he has particularised the development of the Highlands from the Ice Age down to the history of actual farmers and landowners of different periods.

Photographs, models, mock-ups, specimens, vividly demonstrate the evolution—and then you watch a three-screen slide show in a circular theatre, a musical soundtrack only, and no intrusive commentary. The long, low building, flanked by walking paths into the surrounding woodland, also contains a restaurant and a shop with probably the most complete stock of reference books on every aspect of the Highlands from wildlife to history and geology as well as souvenirs of impeccable quality.

Entertainment

The great Aviemore complex, just down the road, was started before the Development Board came into existence, though the board has since put a fair deal of money on the "hill" to develop chair lifts, ski slopes, and the like. Hotels and the big complex of restaurants, shops, and entertainment centres are all the fruit of private enterprise.

Along the main road, with little surrounding landscaping, it is a startling adjunct to a pleasant little village of conventional Scottish cottages. A posse of unappointed, unadorned, unstoried chalets, the amusement centres, and particularly Trust House's new ground-level Post House, due to open within weeks, show an architectural distinction unhappily violated by a

ADRIENNE KEITH COHEN on tourist development

Celtic boom for bed and Board

collection of stark multistorey hotels that sort ill with their surroundings. Yet whatever its defects, Aviemore precisely fulfils the three major requirements for tourist development in this area.

First and foremost, it supplies hotels of international standard. It provides recreational facilities, including wet centre, evening amusements. Then as an area of winter sports it encourages visitors in what would otherwise be a dead season. (It is also building up a thriving midseason convention business, capable of handling 4,000 delegates at any one time.)

In the whole of the Highlands, it is only on Speyside that there is any concentration of first-class accommodation (Rank's Cullinstown Hotel, just down the way from Aviemore, further boosts the total, even though it looks like a converted barracks from the outside). Private bathrooms, elsewhere, are almost unknown. Food almost everywhere, including Cullinstown, is pretty dreadful—and anyone on a starch-free diet should seek some other country altogether.

Only too sharply aware of these major defects, the Development Board is adopting every possible policy to overcome them. Hotel training schemes and seminars, however, tend to be avoided by the old hands whose poor standards are accepted by a captive audience with no alternative choice. And private investment in new hotels is only now beginning to

quicken slightly. As a carrot to lead private investment into the Islands, the board has even put up two 60-bed hotels itself, one on Mull and the other on Barra. In a bid to establish a chain of tourist inns for motorists on 20 locations from John o' Groat's to Campbeltown, it has financed a market research project that has come up with a feasibility scheme for 60-bedroomed units that could be built at low cost. This the board is now trying to sell lock, stock, and barrel to private enterprise.

It is inevitable, motorists who will be attracted to the Highlands in increasing numbers, though the area is also exceedingly well-served by air and rail services from the South:

BEA scheduled services, in particular, are remarkably complete. Via either Glasgow or Edinburgh you can fly in from most big English cities, as well as from Belfast and Dublin. As for the Islands, the locals hop on a plane as you or I might hop on a bus—except it is only for the two-minute flight from Westray to Papa Westray.

In July and August, indeed, it might be thought that access to the area is altogether too easy—and one of the Development Board's chief problems is spreading the tourist load over a much longer period. This is largely being done at present either by sponsoring or encouraging out-of-season festivals—the Festival of the Countryside in Western Ross; the Winter Festival in the Spey Valley; the Festival of the Sea in the Orkneys and so on.

In these a good deal of the organising falls on the shoulders of the 14 regional tourist officers. They have been appointed primarily to ensure that local information on everything from accommodation to places of special interest is available on the spot throughout the entire area.

Local offices

The plan is that these local offices will eventually provide a servicing network of inter-regional booking and information offices. Meanwhile, each tourist officer is encouraged to inspire and integrate developments in his own area and promote them in any way his own initiative suggests.

Thus the lively Cullinstown tourist officer, for instance, has this year captured the European Sea-Angling championships for Thurso. This will bring around 250 deep-sea anglers into the area for a week of festivities largely sponsored by commercial concerns. In a county visited mainly by tourists wishing to chalk up a visit to John o' Groat's, this practical demonstration of another attraction could have considerable repercussions, in terms of increased visitors in future years.

But access to beauty spots must be matched by facilities to deal with visitors, as the Nature Conservancy discovered when they took over 10,000 acres bordering Loch Maree. Motorists in their thousands pulled in beside the loch, unpacked their picnic—and left their litter behind. Some even tramped up Benin Elgie, disturbing the wildlife that the Nature Conservancy had been at such pains to protect and preserve.

The only thing, they decided, was to tackle the problem head-on. They have therefore built a car-park and picnic ground, nicely calculated to hold only as many people as the area can support at a time (finding these full, other potential visitors tend to give up and drive on). They have also provided two walking trails, one low level along the southern shore of Loch Maree, the other a taxing five-hour mountain climb. More tourists than ever now visit the area each year, but the place is spottier and the wildlife thrives no longer.

Nobody could deny that the tourism section of the Highlands and Islands Development Board has its problems. But it also has its friends.

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Less £219 per annum in each case for board and lodging.

Application forms obtainable from Director of Social Services, Informal, Worcester, or telephone Worcester 23400, extension 720.

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CHILD CARE OFFICERS

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For men or women wishing to work in the North West of England with the National Children's Home, which is a unitary society with a socialist foundation, seeking recruit Christian staff.

A successful applicant will be insured by the National Children's Home for social work training on this special 1 year course designed for men and women aged 25 and over who wish to enter the social work field. The first year of the course is spent in full time study at college, the second year in supervised practice in employment with a sponsoring agency.

Further information and application forms can be obtained from Gordon E. Barrett, Principal, National Children's Home, Training Department, Ingham Park, London N5 1UD.

Cheshire County Council

Laboratory Technicians

Wilmow

There are two vacancies at Wilmow Grammar School for Boys, Healy Road, Wilmow (Wilmow 26191) for LABORATORY TECHNICIANS, one of whom will be required to take a special interest in Physics and Chemistry.

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Apply to the Headmaster at the School.

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are required by the Joint Technical Languages Service. Qualifications: Russian degree or equivalent standard. Salary according to age, £1,121 at age 21 to £1,426 at age 25 or over.

Further information and application forms should be sent to the Personnel Officer, 4-9 St. Russian's Hill, London E15.

POLYTECHNICS

KINGSTON POLYTECHNIC

Lecturer 1/11 in ECONOMIC STATISTICS/ECONOMETRICS

Applicants with a good honours degree in Economics, Statistics, Econometrics, or a related subject, should be qualified to teach in the Department of Economics, Kingston Polytechnic. Salary: Lecturer 1: £1,225-£1,500 (under review) London allowance.

Application forms to be returned by 16 July, and interviews by 23 July, to the Personnel Officer, Kingston Polytechnic, Kingston upon Thames, Surrey, KT1 2AA.

EDUCATIONAL

Lancashire Education Committee

STRETFORD DIVISIONAL EXECUTIVE MOSS PARK COUNTY INFANTS' SCHOOL

Required for September, 1971: RECEPTION CLASS Teacher, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st, 32nd, 33rd, 34th, 35th, 36th, 37th, 38th, 39th, 40th, 41st, 42nd, 43rd, 44th, 45th, 46th, 47th, 48th, 49th, 50th, 51st, 52nd, 53rd, 54th, 55th, 56th, 57th, 58th, 59th, 60th, 61st, 62nd, 63rd, 64th, 65th, 66th, 67th, 68th, 69th, 70th, 71st, 72nd, 73rd, 74th, 75th, 76th, 77th, 78th, 79th, 80th, 81st, 82nd, 83rd, 84th, 85th, 86th, 87th, 88th, 89th, 90th, 91st, 92nd, 93rd, 94th, 95th, 96th, 97th, 98th, 99th, 100th, 101st, 102nd, 103rd, 104th, 105th, 106th, 107th, 108th, 109th, 110th, 111th, 112th, 113th, 114th, 115th, 116th, 117th, 118th, 119th, 120th, 121st, 122nd, 123rd, 124th, 125th, 126th, 127th, 128th, 129th, 130th, 131st, 132nd, 133rd, 134th, 135th, 136th, 137th, 138th, 139th, 140th, 141st, 142nd, 143rd, 144th, 145th, 146th, 147th, 148th, 149th, 150th, 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1132nd, 1133rd, 1134th, 1135th, 1136th, 1137th, 1138th, 1139th, 1140th, 1141st, 1142nd, 1143rd, 1144th, 1145th, 1146th, 1147th, 1148th, 1149th, 1150th, 1151st, 1152nd, 1153rd

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HALIFAX BUILDING SOCIETY

Equity & Law out of LOA over fees

By STUART FLEMING

Equity and Law Life Assurance Society, one of the aristocrats of the British insurance industry and also one of the largest firms, with sums assured of over 600 millions, has been forced to resign from the Life Offices Association. The company, founded in 1844, had been a member since 1905.

Almost all the major UK life assurance firms are LOA members, and the association, founded in 1899, has traditionally played a vital role not only in the industry's negotiations with Government but also in helping to maintain business standards.

At a meeting of the LOA yesterday its members voted overwhelmingly against allowing the LOA, albeit reluctantly, to be permitted to pay company's decision to pay per brokerage commissions currently allowed under a rules.

The decision comes after a series of discussions aimed at reaching a compromise agreement. It represents an attempt to bring some members' concerns, to maintain temporary regulatory influence. There is, however, a significant paradox in the LOA's action. By condemning Equity Law to the shadow world of British life assurance, a world in which business standards range from the best to the lowest, the LOA is in effect telling the Government that it is not prepared to take responsibility for the control of the industry. This is a step which brings closer the spectre of tougher life insurance legislation, and some

diminution in the LOA's influence. The move comes soon after attempts by several smaller life assurance firms to reach agreement on membership of the LOA have petered out. The level of brokers' commissions was also one of the issues on which these talks foundered.

The LOA's decision to require the resignation of Equity and Law can be seen as defensive. Those members not directly affected by the commission issue because they have large direct sales forces of their own, felt that if the company were to be permitted to break the commission agreement, yet retain membership, others would follow and the association would be weakened.

The decision which has brought about Equity and Law's forced resignation from the LOA was taken by the company in January, when it gave six months' notice of its intention to pay commission to selected brokers on "indemnity" terms. This means that the life assurance company pays its commission in advance of the receipt of premiums. The brokers who are demanding this type of

commission agreement are those who have set up their own direct sales forces. Mr P. R. Smith, assistant manager and secretary of Equity and Law, agreed last night that it was pressure from these brokers which had forced the firm to its decision.

These broker sales forces tend to sell largely to lower income groups. Mr Smith confirmed last night that Equity and Law, which traditionally has sold its policies to the higher income groups, intends now to tap the mass market. "This is the greater growth area," he said.

But he confirmed that, with the exception of its unit trust linked savings policy, the company would be marketing conventional life policies, and had no plans to launch a property bond fund.

Mr Smith agreed that one problem with broker-controlled sales forces was the difficulty of maintaining ethical selling standards. But he felt that by carefully monitoring the lapse rate of new business from brokers and relying on branch managers' judgment, selling standards could be maintained.

In a statement last night the company disclosed that as long ago as 1966 it approached the LOA with a view to getting the commission agreement amended, and that a further approach was made in the summer of 1970. By the autumn talks were under way but no agreement was reached. It seems that attempts were made to get agreement on a change in amount of commission paid in return for permission to pay it in advance. In its statement the firm remarks that it strongly favours the principle of a commission agreement.

Dollar in decline?

By ANTHONY HARRIS

HAROLD C. PASSER, head of the economic section of the US Commerce Department, admitted yesterday that the US "is experiencing a substantial deterioration" in its trade balance this year. He attributed this to the US economic recovery, which has boosted imports while world demand for US exports remains slack.

Since the economic recovery itself only now getting well under way, the deterioration may be expected to continue — which supports recent guesses from the US that trade may even swing into deficit this year.

This chain of events can only heighten the international crisis over the dollar. Even the previously forecast US trade surplus of \$2,000 millions has been regarded in the international financial community as grossly inadequate to finance US military and investment overseas. A deficit on trade on top of these expenditures would release a new flood of virtually convertible dollars, and provoke defensive measures in Europe — and possibly even in Japan, where reserves have shot up to more than \$8,000 millions, regarded as more than adequate.

The signs of domestic recovery in the US are at last becoming clear and impressive, and after a special session on the economy at Camp David yesterday, President Nixon reaffirmed his confidence in existing policies. The domestic evidence to support him includes a recovery in machine-tool orders reported from May, and the seventh consecutive monthly advance in the composite leading economic indicators. Even so, bank economists do not expect to see really solid results in growth until 1972.

America's trading partners would hardly second the President's vote of confidence in himself. The US trade balance is turning sour alarmingly early in the game: the increase in imports is so far concentrated on industrial materials — notably oil and steel — and the rise in consumer buying of imports which can be expected with rising incomes and confidence has yet to appear.

The news is likely to strengthen the case argued by the Germans inside the EEC for a joint European float against the dollar. This was firmly resisted when the crisis first broke, but European opinion has already softened

far enough to contemplate a wider band of flexibility against the dollar, and the German upward float has reduced tension inside the EEC — notably the Italian fear that the lira might now be over-valued. The French, who yesterday imposed a price freeze order on seven substantial companies, are looking urgently for new measures against price inflation — and a move up against the dollar, made in concert with the rest of the EEC, would be appealing for domestic reasons even if it is opposed by the traditional French wish to see the US forced to take action on its own account.

A further motive for a move — which could not doubt be accompanied by a humiliating anti-American propaganda barrage — is that it would enable the British to come into Europe with a more realistic currency parity.

The pound is generally regarded in Europe as over-valued as an EEC currency, but President Pompidou is probably by now familiar with Mr Heath's rigid views on the parity. If Europe moved — stepwise or through floating — against the dollar, the British need only remain on the dollar standard to achieve the desired result.

Bank lending rise is sign of revival

By our Financial Staff

Some faint sign of revival in the economy appeared yesterday with the news of a rise of £23.5 millions in private borrowing from the clearing banks. This is against the seasonal trend, and against the trend of the past few months, when demand for credit has been remarkably low. Total lending by the clearing banks to the private sector, at £5,635 millions, is only just over 12 per cent higher than a year ago.

The slack demand for credit proved a good advance indicator of the downturn in the economy at the end of 1970, so if the rise in borrowing seen in June is sustained, it may be taken as a mildly bullish indicator. The rise on the month looks consistent with a rate of growth of lending three or four times as high as last year, but a longer run of figures is required to support any firm conclusion.

Total bank lending fell quite sharply, but this was because of a cut of just under £700 millions in borrowing by the nationalised industries, probably partly due to the impact of higher prices. Some of the increase in private borrowing was of "exempt" borrowers (exporters, farmers, and housing finance, for example) and the banks cautiously conclude that, after allowing for this, "there appears to be an underlying upward movement in lending to the restricted sector... but the evidence of another month or two is necessary before one can

determine whether there has been a change in trend. The monthly figures do not unfortunately distinguish between personal and commercial borrowing, so it is not clear how far the rise is due to the new willingness of the banks to make personal loans to finance consumption.

In spite of the net fall of £46.4 millions in lending, deposits rose by £9.4 millions. This means that customers found nearly £56 millions from sources outside the clearing banks. Some of this probably represents the continuing inflow from abroad, with a strong current account surplus and interest rates attracting foreign investors. The rise in lending represents the full demand for clearing bank loans from customers in good credit standing, for there is now effectively no official restraint on lending.

The banks are far below their official ceiling on restricted lending — and next month may well prove to be the last under the existing controls, if the negotiations between the banking community and the Bank of England complete their leisurely course before the summer holidays. Under the proposed regime of control through a bank reserves, the clearing banks remain absolutely absurdly over-provided with eligible assets. Nevertheless, they went on adding their holdings of Government securities during June: the big banks (apart from Barclays) added nearly £30m to their holdings of Treasury bills.

Vesco to sue IOS rival

With the proxy contest over Investors Overseas Services approaching its climax tomorrow, Robert L. Vesco, chairman of IOS, has filed a libel suit against an opposition leader, Morton I. Schiowitz.

The four-count suit, which demands \$20 millions in compensation for allegedly "wilful" and "malicious" injury to Mr Vesco's reputation for integrity and honesty, is based on two statements that Mr Schiowitz issued to newspapers on June 15 and 22. The Vesco suit does not mention a suit that Mr Schiowitz filed against Mr Vesco and International Controls Corporation on June 15 in a New Jersey state court, making charges echoed by the news releases.

The suit against Mr Schiowitz, filed in the US district court in Newark, also names as a defendant, the New York public relations firm, Rubenstein, Wolfson, that allegedly issued the statements. The suit alleges that other, unnamed defendants identified only as "John Doe," were involved in the acts complained of.

An earlier suit filed by Mr Schiowitz against Mr Vesco and International Controls attacked the terms of an agreement which a subsidiary of ICC arranged a \$5 millions loan to IOS last autumn. Mr Schiowitz asked for unspecified damages for IOS and the return to IOS without charge of warrants to buy IOS stock issued to the subsidiary in connection with the loan. International Controls

previously declared Mr Schiowitz's suit to be "without merit."

Both sides are predicting a victory at the IOS annual meeting and election of directors in Toronto tomorrow. Mr Vesco, who joined the IOS board as a result of the loan agreement and quickly advanced to a commanding position, is putting up his own slate of directors before shareholders for the first time.

MARKET REPORT

Equities unstable at start of account

Although business on the London Stock Exchange was not sluggish yesterday, most equity sections gained and at the start of a new unit. At the close, the FT 100 was up 0.1 at 378.5.

Industrial leaders, on the other hand, were somewhat expensive while awaiting news of the Commons when the Chancellor, Mr Barber, was expected to give his latest assessment of the economic picture. Seldom exceeded two or three pence, however.

Jewellery, stores, and building societies all contributed to the list of gains and the rest of the market although trading slackened lunchtime, most finished their best levels of the day. Towards the end of the session, the usual crop of end press recommendations stirred up some particularly bright spots. Gift-edged titles passed only a routine trade, although a steady stream of buying orders entered some longer-dated loans tended earlier gains to 4, and locally 3/8.

Ins held a clear majority of engineering, while shipbuilders were comforted by Swan Hunter chairman's optimistic view of long-term

prospects. Swan Hunter itself put on 3p at 37p. Stores were in buoyant mood, planning their hopes on some early moves towards reflation. Here, Marks and Spencer led the way with a 15p rise at 441p.

Speculative interest in CAST and Selection Trust, again dominated mining markets, but late profit-taking left CASTS only 4p higher at 235p (after 246p), while ST turned a 10p rise into a 30p loss at 700p.

The pound

Closing Market Rates	Previous Closing Rates
New York 100c 2/11 1/2	2/11 1/2
London 100c 2/11 1/2	2/11 1/2
Frankfurt 100c 2/11 1/2	2/11 1/2
Paris 100c 2/11 1/2	2/11 1/2
Geneva 100c 2/11 1/2	2/11 1/2
Basle 100c 2/11 1/2	2/11 1/2
Zurich 100c 2/11 1/2	2/11 1/2
Stockholm 100c 2/11 1/2	2/11 1/2
Copenhagen 100c 2/11 1/2	2/11 1/2
Helsinki 100c 2/11 1/2	2/11 1/2
Oslo 100c 2/11 1/2	2/11 1/2
Stockholm 100c 2/11 1/2	2/11 1/2
Copenhagen 100c 2/11 1/2	2/11 1/2
Helsinki 100c 2/11 1/2	2/11 1/2
Oslo 100c 2/11 1/2	2/11 1/2

Bank of England official limit on US dollar 2.28-2.29 Investment dollar revision 25 per cent (previous 22 per cent).

New York 100c to 60c premium. Manhattan 100c to 60c premium. Amsterdam 100c to 1 1/2c discount. Copenhagen 100c to 1 1/2c premium. Frankfurt 100c to 1 1/2c premium. Geneva 100c to 1 1/2c premium. Paris 100c to 1 1/2c premium. Zurich 100c to 1 1/2c premium. Gold 30.50.

CITY COMMENT

Overseas optimist

REED INTERNATIONAL chairman, Mr Don Ryder is looking overseas for future growth. In his annual report to shareholders he says: "My belief is that the future prosperity of our company depends upon an outward looking policy in seeking new opportunities and that these will not be located just on our UK doorstep. Indeed, I look to our rate of growth overseas to continue to exceed that in the UK."

While the company remains so dependent on the UK he sums up his attitude on the current year as one of restrained hope-

fulness. He is restrained because of the limited growth of the UK economy, and because he anticipates more trouble ahead on the industrial relations front — last year major disputes cost the group an estimated £3.7 millions in lost profit. Mr Ryder expects "hurt to the company and to some groups of employees before there is any success in devising the best methods of working together to their full common benefits."

The spark of optimism comes on the overseas side. He is hopeful because there are some signs of a lightening in the American gloom, because the group has made some progress in certain of their problem areas, and because the immense strength of their major operations enables them to take advantage of whatever trading conditions they encounter.

Overall the tone seems to suggest overall profits on a par with last year at around £20 millions before tax. Still, this would be a very satisfactory outcome for a company whose share price has risen 40p to give a price earnings ratio of 14.1 and a dividend yield of 6.8 per cent. But same again profits might make shareholders question Mr Ryder's claim that all main divisions in the UK "operate under dynamic leaders."

SGS GROUP

Still plenty of leeway

SHARES OF SGS Group, the scaffolding contractor, have risen from a low of 96p to around 168p this year and yesterday's interim results fully justified this re-rating. Indeed, it was a surprise that the shares were not marked up even further.

The company has increased pre-tax profits 36 per cent to £1.4 millions on sales up 19 per cent at £11.7 millions for the six months.

Dealers, it seemed, were cautious because of the chairman's comment that, although historically the second six months were more profitable than the first, this current year results will be more evenly balanced largely because of the good winter weather which kept building activity at a high rate.

In addition the dividend remains the same although it had been increased since it has been held at 71 per cent for the next 11 years.

Assuming, however, that profits are merely maintained in the second half (the directors are expecting some improvement) earnings per 25p share will increase from 9.6p to 13.1p which puts the shares on a prospective price-earnings ratio of under 13.

The higher margins and

increased sales comes from a much fuller utilisation of stocks and the group has still plenty of leeway since it has not increased prices since July last year. Higher profits at home have also been bolstered by a turnaround in the US and exceptionally good European business.

The group's profit record over the past four years shows it has now become fairly immune to the traumatic building cycles by concentrating on petro-chemical plant maintenance, electricity board work, shipbuilding, fork lift trucks, and stone restoration.

As a result the shares look not only cheap for the short term but a good medium-term investment as well.

JOHN E. DALLAS

Forecast is beaten but...

WHILE THE John E. Dallas top pre-tax profit for the year to March 31, 1971, against a previous £75,000, there could be some disappointment with the figures, for the internal management budgets had been chasing a high figure.

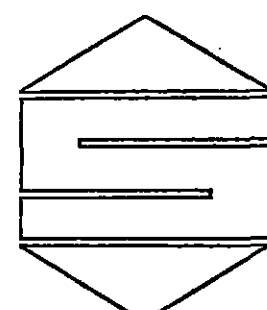
Presumably the postal strike caused something of an orders blockage in the closing quarter while the earlier power cuts last year must have hit the group too. Certainly the opening three months of the current year suggest that this may be the case for turnover is estimated to show an increase of approximately 50 per cent.

As regards profits a cautious board merely says that after absorbing the increase in running costs that all industry is suffering from, and given a continuation of the present trading climate, it is estimated that the profits for the current year "should be higher."

It might not be overoptimistic to look for £250,000 this year however with the benefits of the Hitachi franchise for portable television sets, and the acquisition from Rank of the distributorship of Parfisa organs yet to make their full impact. They could possibly add sales of £1 million to a turnover which last year rose from £24 millions to nearly £4 millions.

Such a prospect is worth waiting for, particularly with the current price earnings ratio at only 5.1, and the yield on the increased dividend of 3.125p per share at over 6 per cent.

Moreover it looks as if the group now has some property potential. Negotiations are thought to be under way to rent out space to be released at the group's fringe-of-the-City Clifton Street headquarters. The sort of rental income that could be added to profits is of the order of £90,000 a year.



Selection Trust Limited

International Mining Finance and Exploration

Results for the year ended 31 March	1971	1970
Revenue, less expenses	7,792,000	7,279,000
Profit after tax	5,680,000	4,763,000
Dividends	3,664,000	3,299,000
Net Assets	120,641,000	148,993,000

The following tabulation shows the division at 31 March 1971 of the Company's net assets at valuation when analysed by reference to commodities and geographical locations. The analysis has been traced through the investments concerned to take account of the indirect interests as well as direct interests; it is therefore necessarily only approximate.

Analysis of Assets — %	Australia	North America	South America	Central Africa	UK and elsewhere	Total
Nickel	32			1		33
Iron	10					10
Copper		6	3	1	2	15
Lead/Zinc		2	3			6
Molybdenum		14				14
Diamonds					4	4
Gold				7		7
Sundries	2	7				12
Total	44	29	6	8	3	100

Selcast Exploration Limited

In December 1970 the decision was reached to proceed with mining of the Location 3 orebody in the Spargoville area in Western Australia. This orebody is at present estimated to contain 715,000 tons of ore after mining recovery and dilution, averaging 2.47% nickel and 0.23% copper. Production is scheduled to commence in January, 1973.

Plans have also been made to mine the Location 2 orebody estimated to contain 120,000 tons of recoverable diluted ore, averaging 2.23% nickel and 0.19% copper. Production is timed to begin in mid-1972.

South Bay Mines Limited

The construction work at the South Bay copper-zinc-silver mine in north-western Ontario in Canada was successfully completed six weeks ahead of schedule, the total capital cost of bringing the mine into production being the equivalent of some £3.6 million. Full-scale mining and milling operations were started early in May at a rate of 600 tons of ore per day.

Exploration

In addition to the investigations being carried out in the areas held by South Bay Mines and Selcast Exploration, active exploration was continued in Australia, North America and Africa and, on a small scale, in the United Kingdom. Consolidated African Selection Trust Limited has the right to a 40% participation in all exploration ventures, except those for diamonds when its entitlement is 60%.

In our Agnew area some 250 miles north of Kalgoorlie in Western Australia a preliminary survey by percussion drilling has indicated a significant occurrence of nickeliferous sulphides. Holes inclined at 60° to a vertical depth of 200 feet have outlined an apparently continuous zone of disseminated nickel sulphides, over a strike length of at least 600 feet.

So far sufficient holes for estimating the width of the zone have been drilled on only one section. The mineralisation on this section has a true width of at least 290 feet. Assays indicate an average grade for the whole zone tested of between 1% and 2% nickel. Diamond drilling is being carried out to verify and expand upon the information obtained to date.

The foregoing is based on the Annual Report for the year ended 31 March 1971, copies of which may be obtained from the Company's Registrars, Hill Samuel & Co. Ltd., 8 Greencoat Place, London, S.W.1.

ENGLISH CALICO LIMITED

Highlights from 1970/71 Annual Report and Review of the Chairman, Mr. Neville Buttersworth.

- * Improvement of over £1,000,000 in profits from trading activities.
- * Increase of 23% in net profit after tax.
- * Additions to fixed assets £6,000,000.
- * Interest charges reduced by £53,000.
- * A year of progress and improved returns consequent on the drastic decisions of the past three years.
- * Despite the strains of inflation, we have the financial resources for expansion.

	1970/71
Profit before taxation	7,743,000
Profit after taxation	4,199,000
Profit for ordinary shareholders	3,710,000
Ordinary dividends (10%)	3,423,000

SYLKO · TRYLKO · TOOTAL · OSMAN · CEPEA
PYRAMID · RAEL-BROOK · JUDY

Truscon's 'appalling record' attacked

Mr Robin Brook, chairman of Truscon, the London-based construction, engineering, and property development group, came under fire over what one stockholder described as the "appalling record" of the company at yesterday's annual meeting.

Calling for a change of management, a shareholder complained that total dividends of only 14 per cent had been paid out over the past five years and "precious little" had been seen in the way of profits. "The only thing that appears to have gone the right way is the directors' remuneration which is up again this year in spite of the poor results."

Mr Brook told the meeting that with conditions in the construction industry generally difficult, the company's record on this side of the business was not surprising, but he was slightly more optimistic about Truscon's property interests.

Referring to the group's 51 per cent stake in Truscon Properties, however, another shareholder asked why it was also necessary for Mr Julian Markham to take up 36 per cent and three Truscon directors, 13 per cent.

Mr Brook replied that Truscon Properties "turned around Mr Markham," adding that "he is the expert without whom the transactions would not have occurred."

Speculative buying of Seltrust

Speculative buying of Selection Trust's shares, following to publication of the group's annual report yesterday, pushed the price up 10p to 710p during the day.

But heavy profit taking later in the day produced a sharp reaction which eventually left the shares 30p down at the close.

Commenting on exploration, the report discloses that in addition to investigations being carried out in the areas held by South Bay Mines and Selcast Explorations, active exploration was continued in Australia, North America, and Africa, and on a small scale, in the United Kingdom.

Pension off the factory for a tax windfall

By Robert Willott

THE INLAND REVENUE believes that some companies are using sale and lease-back transactions on property as a tax dodge. This came out into the open recently when Austin Reed, the tailoring group, revealed that it stood to lose nearly £500,000 following a decision by the Special Commissioners. (Special Commissioners are full-time employees of the Treasury who hear appeals when tax assessments are in dispute.)

Both the Inland Revenue and the Government have made statements indicating that most sale and lease-back transactions will not be disputed by the tax inspectors.

But the amount of money involved in deals of this type may be greatly significant and it is therefore worth looking at the tax aspects.

The most popular reason why a business decides to sell its property and lease it back is the need for hard cash. Cash in a company's coffers today can almost certainly earn more if put to work in the business than it would if tied up in factory premises.

Or, to put it another way, if a company sells its property it may be able to pay off its debts, thereby releasing itself from the burden of interest payments. Of course, it would be important to make sure that the cost of renting the premises back from the new owner would not be greater than the original overdraft plus the bank interest paid on it.

Usually the property involved in sale and lease-back deals is freehold or on a "long" lease (over 50 years, according to the Inland Revenue definition). On a long lease, the company may be paying a ridiculously low rent in relation to the current market value of the property.

The situation is therefore similar to owning a freehold. If an imaginary company, which we shall call Sal Manufacturing Ltd., operated from a factory rented on a 99-year lease, it might discover that, with 14 years to run before the lease expired, the property was worth £1 million.

Sal Manufacturing might want some cash and decide to sell the remaining period of the lease to a pension fund. The tax man would claim a portion of that £1 million in so far as it represented a capital gain. In this case the liability would be minimal because gains tax only started in 1963 and most of the appreciation in value would have occurred before then.

Having sold its factory, Sal Manufacturing would lease it back for 14 years at a rental probably based on current market rates of say £150,000 p.a.

Like any other property rents paid by a business, the £150,000 would be eligible for tax relief in calculating the profits of the company. If the Inland Revenue can establish that the rent was in excess of the commercial rent for the premises, it has the right to disallow the excess portion for tax purposes.

By this deal Sal receives £1 million (less a minute capital gains tax liability of, say, £5,000) immediately. In return it pays out £150,000, less tax at 40 per cent, for each of the following 14 years. Investment

analysts would then say that these annual rentals of £150,000, net of tax, are equivalent to a single payment of £650,000 immediately. Thus Sal is doing very nicely from the arrangement.

So what is Austin Reed's problem? It can be argued that since at the end of the lease—after 14 years in the Sal Manufacturing example—the property is valueless, the pension fund is not going to pay out £1 million to buy it unless the rent it receives is sufficiently high to compensate for the reducing value of the lease, plus a reasonable rate of interest.

The Inland Revenue turns the argument round the other way and says that Sal Manufacturing is effectively not selling a lease and then taking out a sub-lease. Instead, it is borrowing £1 million and repaying it, with interest, over 14 years. Put another way, the annual rental of £150,000 quoted above is really part rent and part repayment of the original loan of £1 million.

And according to tax law the repayment of a loan is not eligible for relief. The Inland Revenue therefore argues that the portion of the £150,000 rental that fairly represents a repayment of a £1 million loan should not be allowed, as a deduction for tax.

Not surprisingly, a lot of companies have got very hot under the collar about this

attitude. The Government has therefore announced that it will not attempt to disallow any part of rental charges payable on a long lease. So the lease-back will be completely safe if it is for over 50 years.

But in the case of a short lease, following a sale and lease-back arrangement, the Government seems determined to treat part of the rent as a repayment of capital and therefore not allowable for tax.

However, all that the Government has promised is that clarifying legislation will be introduced after consultation with affected parties. And it is considering two alternative ways of calculating the liability.

Either it will devise a system for apportioning each year's rent between capital and interest, or it will assess a portion of the capital sum received to corporation tax.

The part of the capital sum taxable would be on a sliding scale reducing from 100 per cent if the period of the lease is less than a year, to 2 per cent if it is for 50 years.

But as William Clark, the Conservative MP for East Surrey, pointed out in the Commons in the small hours of Tuesday morning last week, it will be extremely unjust to introduce either of the alternative systems if the sale proceeds are already subject to capital gains tax.

The Treasury Financial Secretary, Mr Patrick Jenkins, replied: "One would not expect to legislate major tax changes by making a statement at one o'clock in the morning in Standing Committee."

A fair point. But there's little comfort for the taxpayers in the meantime.

Robert Willott is editor of "Accountancy Age."

Machine tool leasing scheme

A plan enabling machine tool users to replace and supplement their existing equipment without their having to assume undue financial liabilities is announced by Alfred Herbert.

The Herbert plan is a lease scheme with scheduled charges laid down for six years and a peppercorn rent payable thereafter. It is different from the ordinary lease scheme, however, in that the lessee can at the beginning nominate a primary period of as little as one year, at the end of which he may terminate the agreement at no further cost or commitment. If, when the time comes, he wishes to continue with the arrangement he pays the pre-determined annual charges written into the schedule; but he can terminate, still at no further cost, at any subsequent anniversary.

The annual charge diminishes with the years. It is deliberately pitched at a relatively high level in the primary period. It is then that a user of machine tools can assess his short-term opportunities, having regard to contracts which he has accepted or are available to him, with the greatest precision.

Herbert has guaranteed to North-west Securities, the finance house which is providing the finance for purchases of machine tools under the "limited commitment" plan, to buy back machines at residual values.

ICL Russian sale cleared

ICL of Britain is now free to sell two of its most advanced computers worth £5 millions to the Soviet Union. Sources in Whitehall yesterday confirmed a report in yesterday's Guardian that the United States, after several months of arguing, had agreed to give its approval to the sale.

It was also confirmed that the NATO group, Cocom, which has responsibility for barring trade and strategic goods to Communist countries, had also approved the sale. The two computers involved are in the 1906A range. A smaller 1903A computer is also expected to be involved in the sale.

The computers are sought for use at a high energy physics research centre near Moscow. US officials said that, following months of negotiations and a technical review within US Government agencies, it was

decided that the US would agree to a British proposal to International Computers permitted to deliver two of highly sophisticated computers to Russia with understanding that the equipment would not be used for military purposes.

Mr Heath, on his visit to Washington late last year, it was understood that the British Government wanted to approve export licences for the computer. It is understood that the British Government requested US support in authorising an "export" of these computers to the restricted list maintained by Western nations.

The withdrawal of the objections is seen in Washington as part of a gradual easing of trade restrictions on trade with the Soviet Union as well as with land China.

The British Printing Corporation Limited

Extracts from the Report and Accounts for 1970 and the Annual Review.

	1970	1969
Sales	£'000	£'000
	76,349	69,387
Loss before taxation	(2,477)	(1,629)
Loss after taxation and special items	(577)	(2,537)
Ordinary Dividends	—	12.5%

I am anxious to ensure that the loss made as a result of the failure in the Publishing Division does not obscure the satisfactory profits in the Printing and Packaging Divisions, which were achieved despite difficult trading conditions during a period of rapidly rising costs.

The Board regrets having to report the loss of £1.4 million after tax credits and outside interests. This loss is reduced to £577,000 after bringing into account the net effect of exceptional items. Nevertheless, the loss has been a very real one and your Board, in addition to taking steps to re-establish profits, has given attention to the maintenance of liquid resources. This has been successful in spite of the postal strike early in 1971. The additional support by our bankers during this period, and the constructive attitudes of our institutional lenders must be warmly acknowledged.

Your Board is directing its energies in 1971 to reduction and elimination of unprofitable and risk areas, to strengthening management, to tightening financial control and to achieving further economies. All in all, it is too early to say what the result will be in 1971, and when ordinary dividends can be resumed particularly as BPC is suffering in common with the rest of industry from rising costs and a subdued economy. I believe that the drastic steps taken to reorganise BPC will result in a stronger Corporation within the next 12 months.

Copies of the Report can be obtained from the Secretary at Print House, 44 Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 5AS. Tel: 01-240 3411

Coffee crop expected to be down 16pc

The Commonwealth Secretariat yesterday predicted a decline of 16 per cent in 1970-71 coffee production from a year earlier in spite of a bumper coffee crop in India.

Smaller Brazilian and Colombian crops will reduce the world output of green coffees to about 57.3 million bags in 1970-71 from 68.1 million bags, the secretariat said.

The secretariat estimates this year's Brazilian crop at about 10 million bags, the lowest since the Second World War. The United States Department of Agriculture has forecast Brazilian output at 9.7 million bags.

Coffee experts said the growth rate of Brazil's foreign cur-

rency earnings from coffee slowed in the first half of this year and that total Brazilian foreign currency revenue from coffee this year might drop to \$800 millions from \$980 millions a year earlier.

Elsewhere in Latin America, the secretariat said there were reports that Colombia's crop might be "35 per cent to 50 per cent below the original estimate of 85 million bags, owing to the effects of storms since October and to the prolonged winter, which lasted into January and seriously impaired plant growth."

The secretariat said Colombia had about 5 million bags in reserve, which will help offset the production loss.

Italy joins reactor consortium

Italy is to join the Franco-German project to build nuclear breeder reactors. The formal signing is scheduled for July 19.

The Franco-German project involves building a 1,000-megawatt breeder reactor in each country. The agreement was signed last month by Electricité de France (EDF) and Rheinisch-Westfälisches Elektrizitätswerk. EDF and RWE plan to establish two joint subsidiaries for the purpose, each 70 per cent owned by the country concerned.

In Italy, ENEL said that in return for its membership in the group, it will get help in building hydroelectric facilities in the Turin area.

FNFC expands its publishing offshoot

First National Finance Corporation is to expand its publishing interests with the acquisition of World Distributors, the Manchester company, for its subsidiary, Marshall Morgan and Scott.

Since Marshall Morgan, which is 70 per cent owned by FNFC, is capitalised at just £330,000 and consideration for World is £900,000, the Marshall shares have been suspended by the Stock Exchange Council pending further details.

World Distributors is 60 per cent owned by News International (News of the World group) and 40 per cent by the Pemberton family. It publishes children's books mainly for the cheaper end of the market and

also owns Pemberton's of Manchester, wholesalers in books, toys, and stationery.

Pre-tax profits of World last year totalled £147,000. Agreed terms for the acquisition will be 1.8 million new Marshall 25p ordinary shares which will be underwritten with cash by First National Industrial Trust at 50p per share.

The Marshall board also plans to convert the £1 participating preference shares and the 75p ordinary shares into a single class of 25p ordinary shares.

FNFC bought 70 per cent of the Marshall equity at the end of 1969 for around £100,000. After the World acquisition is completed it intends to maintain a controlling interest in the company.

Trafalgar House Investments Limited-Year to 31st March 1971

A fully integrated group engaged in property ownership, development and construction throughout the world.



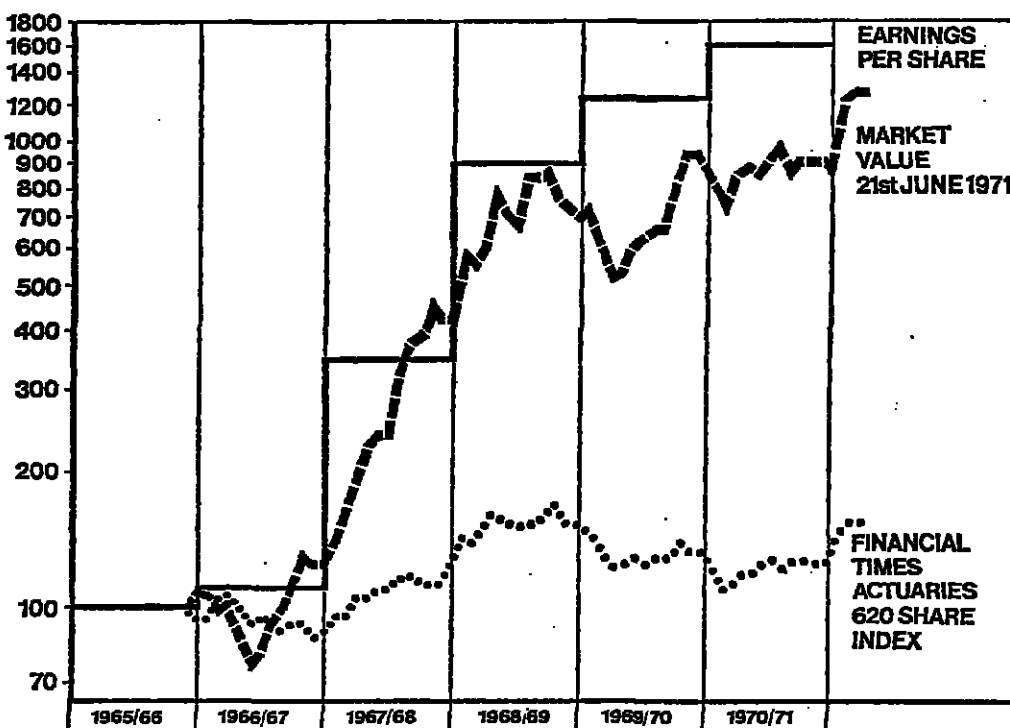
Nigel Brookes, Chairman



Victor Matthews, Group Managing Director



A new office building of 115,000 sq. ft. being built in Leadenhall Street, London, E.C.3. This is one of several major developments for investment which Trafalgar is carrying out on the sites of buildings acquired in the mid 1960's.



This graph shows the manner in which earnings per share and the value of an investment in the Ordinary Shares of Trafalgar have grown over the last five years—more than fourteen and twelve times respectively. During the period net assets per share increased nearly seven times. The Financial Times Actuaries Index is shown for comparative purposes.

Highlights from the Report and Accounts published today.

Pre-tax profits of more than £6 million and sales of £128 million arose as follows:

	Figures in £'000's	Profit	Turnover
Property and Investment Income	2,477	2,380	
Urban Developments for sale	1,432	6,312	
General Contracting and Civil Engineering	1,963	68,415	
Mining and Specialist Activities	1,049	27,849	
Housebuilding	719	12,087	
Hotels	155	1,510	
Industrial and General	687	9,945	
	8,482	128,498	
Less Interest on Funded Debt	2,479		
Net Revenue before Taxation		6,003	
Less Taxation		2,147	
Minority interests		70	
Net Revenue after Taxation		3,786	

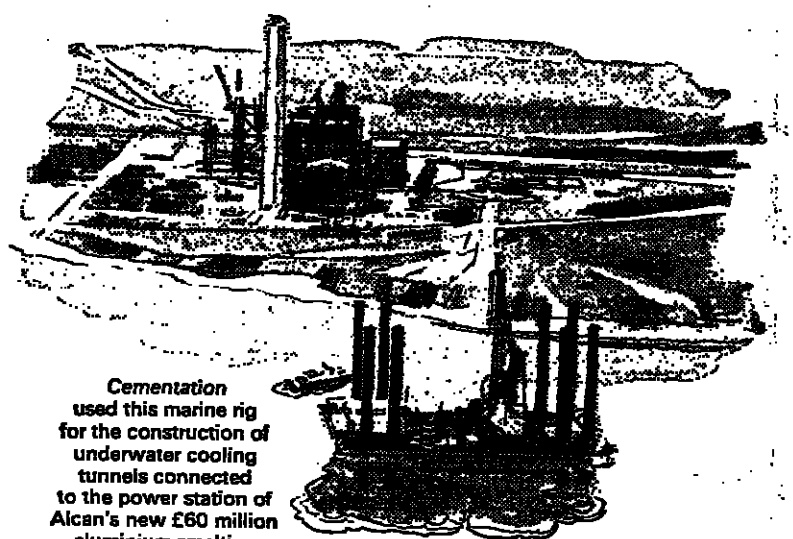
Dividends totalling 20% (1970—12.8%) are proposed, a distribution which would be covered 1.75 times by available earnings; a one-for-five scrip issue is also proposed.

All divisions traded satisfactorily during the year and a major programme of internal growth is under way. Earnings and net assets are expected to increase considerably and steadily over the next few years.

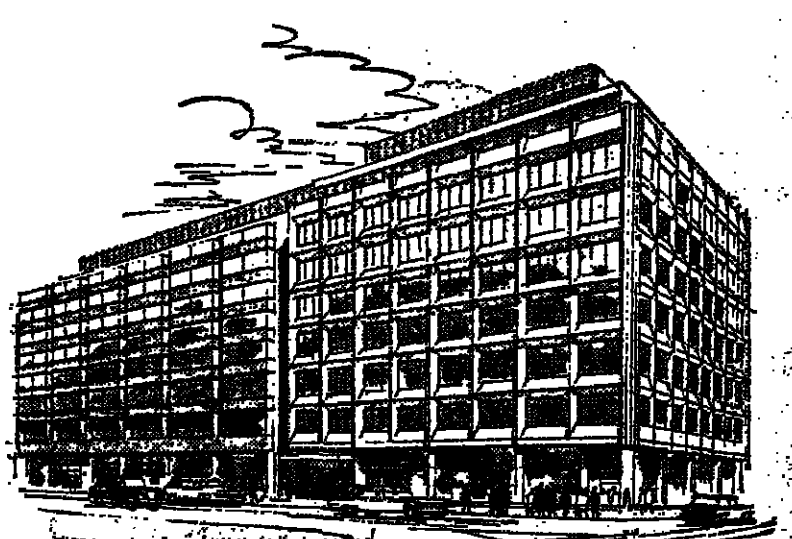
Copies of the Report and Accounts may be obtained from The Secretary, Trafalgar House Investments Limited, 19 St. James's Square, London, S.W.1.



Cementation provided a specialist foundation service for Trollope & Colls who are building Stage 3 of the Guildhall redevelopment for the City Corporation.



Cementation used this marine rig for the construction of underwater cooling tunnels connected to the power station of Aican's new £60 million aluminium smelting plant at Lynmouth.



Trafalgar is redeveloping the site of the old Berkeley Hotel in Piccadilly. The front section is an office block and at the rear is a 185 bedroom hotel which will be run by the Group's hotels subsidiary.

Six link to take on the giants

Car output down 11 pc

The effects of industrial disputes in Britain's motor industry this year showed up a fall of 11 per cent in total production in the three months to March, according to figures published yesterday by the Department of Trade and Industry.

But the effects of industrial disputes, which crippled some of the big motor makers in March and April, were less severe in May when car production for that month was 39,100 units a week, 10 per cent higher than the same month last year (which, however, was itself heavily hit by strikes).

Commercial vehicle production was 5 per cent lower in the three months March to May than in the previous three months.

Expansion is naturally the feature of the review of Mr Nigel Brookes, the chairman of Trafalgar House Investments. In the short term, he expects the profits of each of the principal trading divisions "to increase considerably and steadily." In the medium term considerable sources of revenue will emerge as the hotels division comes to make its full contribution and the City development programme is completed. For the longer term, "the indications

are there in four or five years' time, the company should be well placed in terms of assets, liquidity, earnings and prospects to match what should prove to have been a period of considerable growth."

During the next three years, Mr Brookes estimates that internal growth and development opportunities may well involve capital outlays of £35 millions. Last May, the group raised £5 millions through a £100,000 loan and plans are now being considered for a new mortgage debenture. The objective, says Mr Brookes "is to emerge by the mid-1970s with a substantially enhanced net worth and earnings per share, and a considerable bulk of new property."

Quoted securities held by the group were worth £5.3 millions on March 31, compared with £2.4 millions a year earlier. There were four "strategic holdings" — two in the UK, but one (not the company) has since been sold, says Mr Brookes.

Marshall's (Hal) earnings jump

Profits of Marshalls (Halifax), the concrete products manufacturer, quarry owners and specialised engineers, are better than expected and the dividend is being raised by 3½ points, a final of 12½ per cent making 17½ per cent for 1970-1.

Group pre-tax profit at £668,000, nearly 29 up on last year, comfortably exceeds the forecast of £600,000 by the chairman, Mr David Marshall.

He emphasises, however, that the bulk of the improvement was provided by three recent acquisitions which have contributed appreciable profits for

the first time. The new dividend rate is covered 1.9 times.

Group turnover increased by 32 per cent and the overall margin declined slightly. The engineering division working at full capacity has done well exports continuing to expand. Mr Marshall also reports continued growth by the concrete division and in view of the increased activity in the building industry, he looks for a further improvement by this section of the business.

Heinz profits top £8M mark

H. J. Heinz Company, the international food products group, pushed its pre-tax profit up from \$7.66 millions to \$8.29 millions last year.

Thanks to a drop in the tax rate, the improvement in the final result is more outstanding, a net profit of \$5.95 millions, comparing with \$4.18 millions.

The group is paying a first interim dividend of 31 per cent.

Craig Shipping
pays 25½ pc

An outstanding improvement in the results of the Craig Shipping Company enables the board to raise the dividend for 1970-71 by eight points. With a final dividend per share the total is brought up to 25½ per cent, against 17½ per cent.

Following the advance in 1969-70, growth accelerated last year. Pre-tax profit trebled from

**British Cotton
recovers**

The first half downturn by British Cotton and Wool Dyers "slubbers" was followed by a strong second half recovery. From sharply higher profits for the whole of 1970-1, this Manchester based textile group is stepping its dividend up from 24 per cent to 31 per cent. An increase from £5.9 millions to £8.6 millions in the

turnover has produced a leap from £107,000 to £151,000 in the pre-tax profit. After tax of £45,689 (£32,009), the net profit has improved from £75,000 to £105,000.

In a brief comment on the figures, the directors report that the textile group and the manufacturing division both contributed broadly similar percentages to the increase in profits.

Eden Fisher steps up total

Eden Fisher Holdings, the commercial printing group, is stepping up its total dividend for the year ended March 31 from 12 per cent to 14 per cent following a substantial increase in profit.

was £214,891, against £164,000 in the previous year. At the end of the year stage, pre-tax profit was down from £121,481 to £117,459.

At that point, the directors said that unless the postal strike was "unduly prolonged" then the total for the year would be "materially above that for the previous 12 months."

As forecast, the group tax charge is very much higher, at £70,419 as against £30,338 the previous year, due to the absorption of the bulk of past tax losses.

D. MacPherson's interim higher

Donald MacPherson, the paint manufacturer, made a useful recovery after its slump in profits last year but the board is raising its interim dividend just one point to 3 per cent.

Pre-tax profits for the six months ended May jumped from £22,000 to £123,000 but are still well below the £220,000 made in 1968-9. Sales increased from £7.5 millions to £8.14 millions.

The directors say that earnings for the full year should be "significantly better" than last year when profits fell from £700,500 to £181,000 pre-tax.

£6.6M bonds on offer

Concorde
noise
'not too
great'

From PETER RODGERS

Brussels, June 2.—The Concorde noise problem has been "grossly misrepresented" to the public by those concerned to bring the project to an end, Professor Sir M. J. Lighthill told a conference of science and society in Brussels today. Professor Lighthill, mathematician and noise expert, was director of the Royal Aircraft Establishment at Farnborough from 1959 to 1966 and is now at Cambridge.

He added: "My friends in meteorology tell me the same thing about the controversies over the effects of Concord's exhaust on the ozone layer. It is very important at the outset to take the broadest possible view of all the implications of a supersonic transport. That is what the British aero engineers did. It is to our benefit that the United States is dropping the SST, which in the long term will benefit the human race."

Professor Lighthill said that Britain and France took the right technical decisions, only to find that the Americans confined the speed of Concord to Mach 2 instead of Mach 3, which was the American's original decision.

Concorde flew below the ozone layer the controversy over this question in America was "not very important" for the Anglo-French project.

Another speaker Professor Chaim Pekeris, head of the Department of Applied Mathematics at the Weizmann Institute, Israel, criticised the approach of scientists who sat on governmental panels investigating matters like supersonic transport, without taking time off to test the theories and criticisms which they advanced.

Export gain for Gentex

Seafield Gentex, the County Cork textile group which recently acquired Trimproof, increased its exports by about £650,000 in the six months to March 31—a figure which is equal to 41 per cent of all third party sales.

man, also reports that pre-tax profit, including earnings of Trimproof, is slightly ahead of the level achieved in the previous corresponding period. He adds however, that the group is not escaping the effects of the UK recession. Both spinning mills have had to cut back production and their results are suffering severely.

Not surprisingly, shareholders are warned that second half profit will be "considerably lower" than in the corresponding period last year.

Mr Lord says the best indications are that including consolidation of Trimproof, pre-tax profit for the whole of 1970-1 will "approximate" that earned in 1969-70.

news briefs

says most sections of business have satisfactory order books. At present time, indications are that 1971-2 should show improvement over last year.

says trading for first few months of current year has been reasonably encouraging and subject to unforeseen circumstances, directors expect profit and dividends to be maintained for 1971.

Simon Engineering: Although manufacturing and servicing sides of business are near to target, there has been significant falling off of orders on the trading side, chairman Mr L. Brook, told annual meeting.

Business changes

W. D. and H. O. Wills: Mr John Vcale appointed to board

Hirsh and Mallinson: Mr. J. R. Harbold appointed additional director.

Ashton Brothers and Co (Holdings): Mr J. H. S. Wishart resigns

Burco Dean: Mr Tom Sutcliffe appointed an executive director, and Mr Michael William Walton and Mr David Warren appointed non-executive directors, from October 1

W. E. Yates: Mr William Dixon appointed a director. He becomes chairman in place of Mr Reginald Paul Hollock, who remains managing director.

Robert A. Zuskoski appointed deputy chief executive.
Wharf Holdings: Sir Frank Price elected chairman.
E. Green and Son: Mr C. J. Probett and Mr R. Atkins.

Mr G. P. Jackson and Mr C. E. Guinness appointed executive directors of Arthur Guinness and Son and Company.

Interim results

Pochins: Net pre-tax profit £30,850. This compares with a break even position at end of

a net profit before tax of £34,891
for 12 months ended May, 1970.

Final results

Wolverhampton Steam Laundry:
3 1/3 pc (same). Pre-tax profit
£6,053 (£6,728), tax £1,403 (£2,360).
Northern and Transatlantic
Trust: 5 pc (same) plus bonus of

Net profit £11,400 (£7,248) after tax of £8,283 (£5,904).

General Securities Trust: 12 c. stock making 18 (17). Net revenue £38,361 (£33,673) after tax of £32,402 (£27,818). Net asset value

Account : July 9
Settlement : July 20

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PC 'critical' as armed hunt goes on

BY OUR OWN REPORTER

Police last night issued descriptions of two men they want to interview in connection with the shooting of Detective Constable Ian Coward, at Reading. One man is 6ft., of thin build, with dark brown hair and clean shaven, wearing a maroon pullover and grey trousers. The other is 5ft. 10in., of thin build, wearing a black leather jacket and grey trousers. Both have London accents and one is tattooed on the hands. Detective Superintendent Joe Coffey, second in command of Thames Valley police CID, said the vehicle being driven by the "culprits" was seen along Watlington Street, Reading, just before the shooting on Sunday night.

He said it was thought that Detective Constable Coward had spoken to the men about their driving and then returned to his car—a plain CID vehicle—to transmit a message to Reading police station.

As he did this two men approached and fired at him with a .22 automatic pistol at point blank range. He was shot nine times.

Superintendent Coffey said they were following a number of leads in London and the Home Counties. He said "Police warn that both may still be armed and may be extremely dangerous."

Police also believe that the wanted men are planning a major crime.

By midnight last night, police—many carrying guns—had carried out scores of raids in the Reading area and on addresses in London. They found "enough ammunition and weapons to supply a small army" when they located the car used by the gunmen.

Detective Constable Coward, aged 28, was still in a critical condition in the Royal Berkshire Hospital last night.

The gunmen's car was found blazing in a side road near Reading. Yesterday forensic scientists began the job of sifting the remains. Within a few hours they began to find 12 bore shotgun cartridges and boxes of 22 pistol bullets. A number of shotguns, pistols, and rifles were also discovered in the car, which had been stolen about a week ago.

Cracks in £2M bridge

Traffic restrictions are to be imposed over a £2-million bridge at Newcastle upon Tyne after inspections revealed distortions in the girders. The faults were found in the approach span to the Scotswood bridge, opened three years ago to carry traffic over the river Tyne. Newcastle Corporation and Durham County Council—which built the bridge jointly—said last night that the distortions were slight. There was no danger. But it was felt that until work had been carried out traffic should be restricted to single file.

Former Lord Chancellor

Lord Simonds, Lord Chancellor from 1951 to 1954, died yesterday at his London home at the age of 89.

Gavin Turnbull Simonds was born on November 28, 1881. He was educated at Winchester, from where he went to New College as an exhibitioner. At Oxford he obtained a double First, in Mods and Greats, in 1902 and 1904. Two years later he was called to the Bar by Lincoln's Inn.

His high intellectual attainments and pleasant manner brought him great success at the Chancery Bar, and in 1921 he was asked by Lord Birkenhead to serve on the Crown Proceedings Committee appointed to consider how civil proceedings by and against the Crown might be assimilated to the ordinary procedure between subjects.

This committee eventually produced a report and draft Bill in 1927 in the preparation of which Simonds played a considerable part. The committee's work had no immediate effect, but the draft Bill was some 20 years later used as the starting point for the Crown Proceedings Act of 1947.

In 1924 Simonds took silk and soon became one of the acknowledged leaders of the Chancery Bar. In addition to his other qualities he showed that he had a good business mind and a grasp of detail and was in demand for the heaviest type of case, such as the celebrated Portuguese banknote case of the early thirties. (Banco do Portugal v. Waterlow (1932) A.C. 4527.) He was not belligerent in his conduct of cases and was as popular with his fellow-practitioners, to whom he was affectionately known as the "Great Gavin," as he was with solicitors.

His legal and business capacity was again used by the Government in 1929, when he was

Boy, 3, dead in 'fridge

A boy of three was found dead in a disused refrigerator on the Coldharbour Estate, Mottingsham, South London, last night. His body was discovered by a small girl who lives nearby. He is believed to have climbed into the back garden of the house on the estate. He has three sisters and was the only boy in the family. He had been missing for about six hours before he was discovered. The child was later named as Daren McGovern and was found in the fridge by his sister, Deborah, aged seven.

Although the post of director-general was created only in 1968, Mr Edwards has been a member of the board since 1963. It was at the request of Mr Cuckney that he was appointed to the executive committee which has virtually run the port for the past six months.

The committee of advice, appointed by the Government to prepare a plan for restructuring Upper Clyde Shipbuilders yesterday met representatives of the unions, Glasgow Corporation, and the Clydebank Town Council at the company's yard in Govan. The committee has been asked to study the wider social and economic implications of the UCS collapse. Lord Robens, who was appointed an additional member of the committee last week, was not present at yesterday's talks, but is expected to be in Glasgow with his colleagues on Friday.

Mr William Hutchison, chairman of the union side of the UCS works committee, said he had been encouraged to find that the advisory committee seemed to be covering a wide scope in its investigations. It had indicated, he said, that it was determined to find a lasting solution—not just something that would paper over the cracks. The committee undertook to have further consultations with the unions before reaching a decision.

Mr Edwards, who has not enjoyed good health in recent months, has had a difficult time in the prolonged and often acrimonious negotiations since the magnitude of the board's financial trouble was made public last autumn.

Although the post of director-general was created only in 1968, Mr Edwards has been a member of the board since 1963. It was at the request of Mr Cuckney that he was appointed to the executive committee which has virtually run the port for the past six months. The committee of advice, appointed by the Government to prepare a plan for restructuring Upper Clyde Shipbuilders yesterday met representatives of the unions, Glasgow Corporation, and the Clydebank Town Council at the company's yard in Govan. The committee has been asked to study the wider social and economic implications of the UCS collapse. Lord Robens, who was appointed an additional member of the committee last week, was not present at yesterday's talks, but is expected to be in Glasgow with his colleagues on Friday.

Jenkins gets them by ears

By Norman Shrapnel

WEARING his European colours plainly before all the House—including the Leader of the Opposition—Mr Roy Jenkins nevertheless gave a stern warning yesterday about the dangers of diving off the wrong springboard.

We should go into the EEC from a basis of confidence, not fear, he told the Commons in general and Mr Anthony Barber in particular. "You cannot frighten people into Europe, and I beg the Government not to attempt to do so."

Actually, if the Chancellor had happened to be in a nervous mood, he could have found his own Shadow pretty terrifying. Mr Jenkins was launching a censure motion on the Government in the severest terms we have heard from him for many a long month. Gone were the usual politenesses, the little shared courtesies, the mutual understanding of men who can say

they were all chancellors once.

Instead, we had a fierce, practical, and moral lecture from a housemaster who had caught out a delinquent Government in some of the worst offences known to the school. Short of being found smoking pot after midnight with girls, they sounded guilty of pretty well every crime in the book. Slacking and deceit were the least of it. They had been caught red-handed in positive fraud.

Who but these miserably misguided lads could organise elaborate collections in which they took money from the poor to distribute to the rich? A fine idea that was. As for their work, it was unimpeachable. There was hardly a prospective "A" level in sight—and certainly not in economics.

What an example to them all was Eddie Boyle, whose brilliant speech the other day

showed him to have more of what it takes than the whole of the Treasury bench rolled into one. The Treasury bench were far too abashed to acknowledge this tribute to their former playmate who has now, in any case, moved on to another school. In fact the telling-off was unusually free from attempts to answer back.

This was less true of Mr Barber's own speech, when he finally came to answer for himself. "I've now been in this House for 20 years," he boasted. They believed him about that, at least. "Too long!" they shouted, evidently regarding him as a slow developer.

But Mr Barber begged Mr Jenkins to be fair, to admit that things might not be as black as they were painted; that exports could just possibly be picking up again, that the rise in unemployment is perhaps going down, that

other modified blessings may just conceivably be on the way.

Mr Jenkins continued to look black and quite unimpressed, nor did his expression relax when the impatient Barber quoted Mr Wilson and Mr Crossman to strengthen his case—his own case, that is not Mr Jenkins's. He was also stubborn enough to declare that he and the other chaps would go on behaving the same way—a way Mr Jenkins had already judged disastrous.

It looked like deadlock. That perhaps to ease the tension, or possibly to prove that Eddie Boyle was not the only clever one—young Enoch Powell jumped to his feet and treated us to a brilliant and impromptu discourse (looks no notes!) on currency inflow and the effect of exchange rates on inflation. Surely, they must have been thinking, there is one potential "A" level in the House.

Parliament, page 4

Biggest arms factory find in Ulster

Troops unearthed the biggest terrorist arms factory yet in a dawn raid in Belfast's Lower Falls yesterday. The operation will be a big blow to the subversives.

The find, mainly materials for acid and gelignite bombs, illustrates the switch in tactics of the terrorists to booby traps and explosions. Yesterday's surprise that it was also as a bomb-making factory. Three men are helping with inquiries into the cover. On Saturday, a searching party of East B found weapons, ammunition, walkie-talkie sets and equipment in the yard house.

Troops also found two and three pistols wrapped in a blanket behind lavatory girls' school in Mill Belfast.

Samuel Boyd (23) a 60 of Mowagh Drive, Belfast, sentenced to life imprisonment at Belfast City Commission yesterday when he pleaded guilty to murdering Mrs Rose Ke aged 77, who was found to be dead in her home.

An officer said: "We seem to have found a major terrorist arms store. From the items among the haul, we can only

Yahya's plan for civil rule

continued from page one

but we cannot allow chaos in any part of the country, and the hands of governments need to be strengthened until things settle down."

The President appealed to refugees in India to return, and said that Pakistan would gladly accept UN assistance in facilitating their return.

The precise timing of President Yahya's plan for a return to civil rule would "naturally depend on the internal and external situation."

The plan, as it stands, could be a recipe for an eventual Pakistan People's Party Government, headed by Mr Bhutto. The PPP holds more than 80 seats in the West Wing, and will obviously do its best to secure some of the seats to be contested in the East Wing by-elections.

Awami Leaguers still in the country now face a difficult decision. If they do not come forward, the Government may deduce that they are hostile and therefore guilty of anti-State activity and put them on the list of those disqualified. Such a listing might well involve more than the simple loss of their Assembly seats.

Apart from this, however, the President's speech is unlikely to produce a significant change in the situation in East Pakistan. It incorporates no concessions, does not deviate from the secularist, Awami League treason already elaborated by the Government, admits no excesses on the part of the army, and provides for continued martial law in one form or another.

Leader comment, page 10; Peter Jenkins, page 11

Titian changes hands

continued from page one

transported across the border claimed that the damage and the cost insurance cover, was stated.

He hopes to talk trustees of the National Gallery today. Last night, the Gallery said no approval had been made by the Museum. "It will be the trustees to consider," the Gallery said.

Under Government plans, a British museum days to pay the auction for the painting. The Gallery has, however, been refused a special licence grant for the Titian.

Before Friday's sale, world had been seen that up to £3 millions paid for the Titian. In fact, a portrait by Vermeer went for £2,310,000, director of Christie's, night that the Haworth painting should fetch guineas, and it had this by 100,000 guineas.

Negotiations between Getty Museum and Mr took place over the and were concluded morning. At his 11 Berkeley Square, Mr refused last night to dis profit resulting from a day technical ownership Titian, which in fact is Christie's.

At Harewood House Leeds, last night, a Lord Harewood's said: "His Lordship instructed me to say does not want to be sale of the Titian."

Director-general of the Mersey docks resigns

By our own Reporters

Mr Robert S. F. Edwards, aged 61, director-general of the Mersey Docks and Harbour Board, which is labouring under a capital debt of £93 millions, is to give up his job and his membership of the port's six-man executive committee at the end of next month.

The announcement, unexpected and unexplained, was made after a board meeting last night by the chairman, Mr J. G. Cuckney, appointed by the Government in December. The only hint as to the reason

was Mr Cuckney's reference to the Bill now before Parliament which, if passed, will mean the end of the Mersey Docks and Harbour Board as a public trust, and its replacement by a statutory company, the Mersey Docks and Harbour Company. In that event, Mr Cuckney said, the post of director-general would be discontinued. Mr Edwards was not available for comment last night.

Mr Edwards, who has not enjoyed good health in recent months, has had a difficult time in the prolonged and often acrimonious negotiations since the magnitude of the board's financial trouble was made public last autumn.

Although the post of director-general was created only in 1968, Mr Edwards has been a member of the board since 1963. It was at the request of Mr Cuckney that he was appointed to the executive committee which has virtually run the port for the past six months.

The committee of advice, appointed by the Government to prepare a plan for restructuring Upper Clyde Shipbuilders yesterday met representatives of the unions, Glasgow Corporation, and the Clydebank Town Council at the company's yard in Govan. The committee has been asked to study the wider social and economic implications of the UCS collapse. Lord Robens, who was appointed an additional member of the committee last week, was not present at yesterday's talks, but is expected to be in Glasgow with his colleagues on Friday.

Mr William Hutchison, chairman of the union side of the UCS works committee, said he had been encouraged to find that the advisory committee seemed to be covering a wide scope in its investigations. It had indicated, he said, that it was determined to find a lasting solution—not just something that would paper over the cracks. The committee undertook to have further consultations with the unions before reaching a decision.

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MAN CLIMBS 100FT AT STEELWORKS
A steelworker climbed to the top of a 100ft water tower at the GKN steelworks in Cardiff last night, protesting he was being victimised, and ignored pleas to climb down.

Leonard Beaton—idealist

By our own Reporter

The memorial service for Mr Leonard Beaton, formerly Defence and Air Correspondent of the Guardian and a special writer for the "Times," was held yesterday at St Bartholomew the Great, London. The Dean of Westminster, the Very Rev Dr E. S. Abbott, said that Leonard Beaton had finished writing a book at the time of his death, and it was to be published soon. The title, "The Reform of Power," caught the two strands in his character—realism and idealism.

The lessons were read by Mr William Rees-Mogg, editor of the "Times," and Mr Alastair Hetherington, editor of the Guardian.

THE WEATHER

AROUND BRITAIN			
Time	Max	Min	Weather
6 p.m. yesterday:			
London	15	10	Sunny
Edinburgh	12	7	Sunny
Belfast	14	9	Sunny
Cardiff	13	8	Sunny
Manchester	14	9	Sunny
Sheffield	13	8	Sunny
Liverpool	14	9	Sunny
Birmingham	15	10	Sunny
Nottingham	14	9	Sunny
Leeds	13	8	Sunny
Sheff	13	8	Sunny
South Coast	14	9	Sunny
West Coast	13	8	Sunny
North Coast	14	9	Sunny
London	15	10	Sunny
Edinburgh	12	7	Sunny
Belfast	14	9	Sunny
Cardiff	13	8	Sunny
Manchester	14	9	Sunny
Sheffield	13	8	Sunny
Liverpool	14	9	Sunny
Birmingham	15	10	Sunny
Nottingham	14	9	Sunny
Leeds	13	8	Sunny
Sheff	13	8	Sunny
South Coast	14	9	Sunny
West Coast	13	8	Sunny
North Coast	14	9	Sunny

Reports for the 24 hours ended 6 p.m. yesterday:

London 15, 10; Edinburgh 12, 7; Belfast 14, 9; Cardiff 13, 8; Manchester 14, 9; Sheffield 13, 8; Liverpool 14, 9; Birmingham 15, 10; Nottingham 14, 9; Leeds 13, 8; Sheff 13, 8; South Coast 14, 9; West Coast 13, 8; North Coast 14, 9.

Sea passages: All passages: Moderate to slight.

Low tide: 1004 m. High tide: 1008 m.

Moons: June 29 5.41 a.m. 5.42 p.m.

High tide table: London 5.41 a.m. 5.42 p.m. Dover 4.00 a.m. 4.16 p.m.

Lighting-up times: Birmingham 10.05 p.m. to 4.38 a.m. Bristol 10.02 p.m. to 4.37 a.m. London 9.52 p.m. to 4.37 a.m. Nottingham 10.06 p.m. to 4.32 a.m.

Cloudy, later

A RIDGE of high pressure over the North Atlantic will bring a change in the weather during the day. The ridge will move northwards and will bring a change in the weather during the day.

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